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# BULLETIN

OF THE

# American Iris Society

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RECORDS

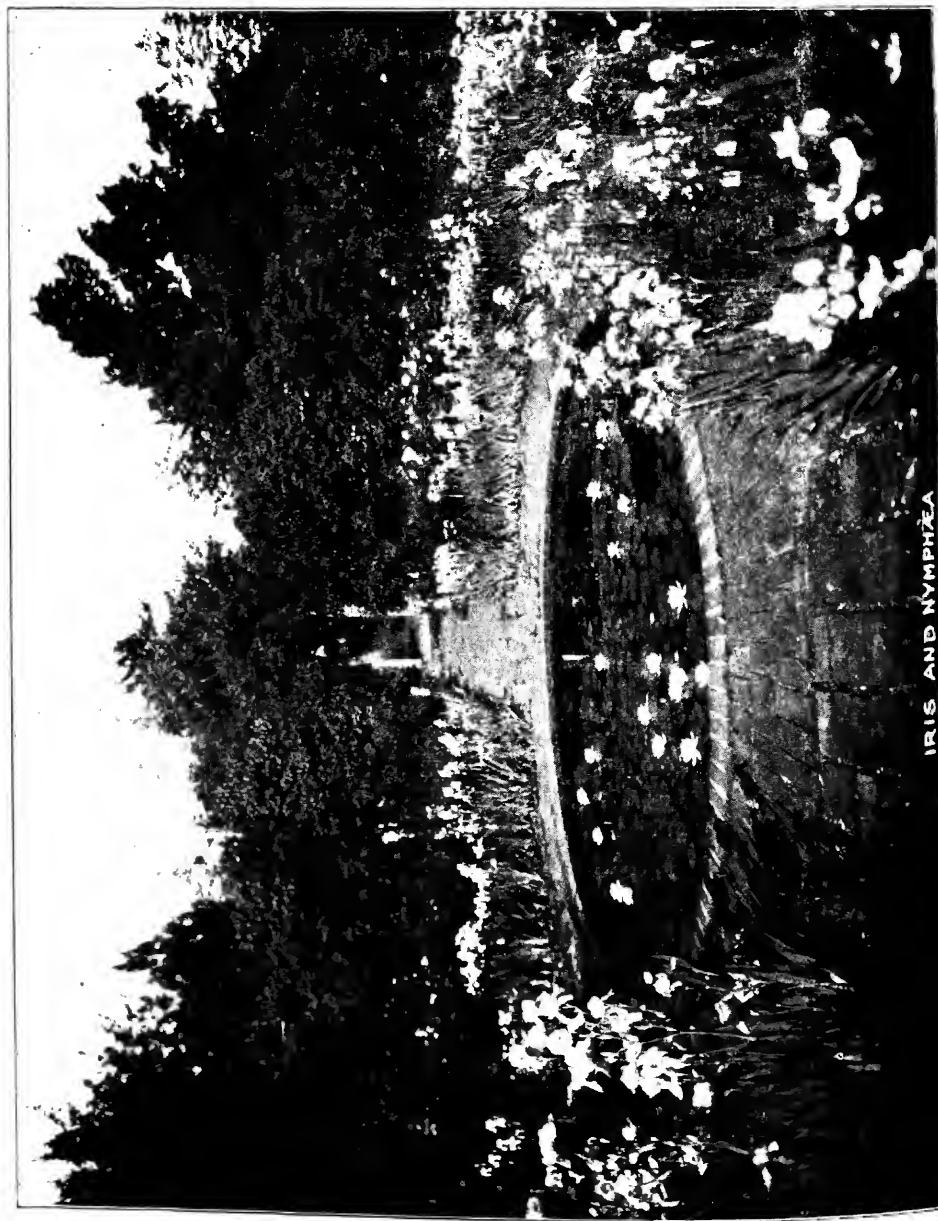
*Edited by the Secretary*  
R. S. STURTEVANT

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IRIS AND NYMPHÆA

# Les Iris dans les Jardins

Henri Correvon

## A REVIEW AND EXTRACTS

With the arrival of M. Henri Correvon on his first visit to this country and with the opportunities that the lectures planned by Lowthorpe, The School of Landscape Architecture for Women offer to gardeners in many localities it seems timely to mention his work with irises. M. Henri Correvon may be best known for his work in the acclimatization and preservation of Alpine flora but "Les Iris dans les Jardins" published in 1907 and now out of print was for many years one of the few sources of information concerning the Iris genus. It is a book of some 200 pages fully a half of which are devoted to descriptions of the cultivated species and principal varieties. Inasmuch as it antedates the "Genus Iris" by W. R. Dykes the botanical nomenclature is confusing to the modern student but fortunately there is real charm in the simplicity of the style and many notes of historical or cultural interest.

The subject matter is as follows and I have selected for rather free translation a bit from the introduction as reflecting the range of iris interest twenty odd years ago and extracts from the chapter on culture dealing with the cultivation of irises under glass or other shelter.

- Chapt. I. Iris superstitions among the ancients—Etymology—Iris in mythology—Therapeutic qualities.
- Chapt. II. Geographical distribution—Classification.
- Chapt. III. Description of cultivated species and principal varieties.
- Chapt. IV. Iris in our gardens—Swamp Iris.
- Chapt. V. Culture.

## INTRODUCTION

"It was because of the beauty and popularity of the irises, then, that when M. Massé (who was well able to handle the affair himself) requested my collaboration I answered with an unqualified 'Oui'. After visiting the beautiful collections in England; that of my good friend the Reverend Ewbank whose delightful garden on the Isle of Wight shelters in the shadow of the tower of St. John; that of Sir Michael Foster, at Shelford, a soil sacred to every "Iridomane"; that of Miss Willmott at Warley the richest of gardens that I have had the pleasure of visiting; the Kew Gardens, the Cambridge Botanic Gardens, the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at Chiswick; that of my deceased friend, G. F. Wilson at Weybridge, and at Wisley, in that celebrated and fascinating garden that Commander Thomas Hanbury later purchased and presented—a princely gift—to the Royal Horticultural Society. After following for long the experiments in the culture of the *Oncocyclus* conducted by our illustrious compatriot Edouard Boissier, the world-known author of the "Flora Orientalis" and the first to succeed with the *Oncocyclus* irises. After keeping in touch with the skill of Marc Micheli who, on the terraces of his chateau at Aubigné, has acclimatized all possible species. After visiting Max Leichlin at Baden-Baden and his beds of wonderful irises; after seeing in the Midi all that was to be seen, what Italy and Austria had to reveal, I made a pilgrimage to Haarlem and there saw the most interesting planting of all, because it was devoted to acclimatization for the later distribution and popularizing of this most lovely of the daughters of Flora.

"After all these visits I told M. Massé that I was prepared to write of these plants that our French and Swiss gardeners might enjoy for themselves. I have been aided also (for at *Floraire* we have but the more easily grown species and a few rare things that we have helped to distribute) by the advice of such men as Sir Michael Foster, Irwin Lynch, the Director of the Cambridge Botanic Garden who possesses so wide an experience in this field, Miss Willmott, G. F. Wilson, Reverend Ewbank, and others. The writings of M. G. Baker, Sir Michael Foster, of Nicholson, and Boissier; the contributions of Caparne, Mrs. Armitage, the Rev. Wilks in the excellent journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, the "Book of the Iris" by Mr. Lynch, and lastly the contributions of my late friend M. Marc Micheli to the *Revue Horticole* have all assisted me materially.

Other assistance has been given me, advice on culture, etc., by M. Massé—who as it is his suggestion, should, in fact, be considered the author of this volume—by C. G. van Tubergen the great importer and grower of irises and who has succeeded above all others in the cultivation of the delicate *Oncocyclus* species. In the great fields about Haarlem one sees these easterners flowering and growing normally; it is to this man, the master of Dutch horticulture and the descendant of the old tulip growers, that we must go when in difficulty. M. A. Borner a pharmacist at Hermenault and the Abbé Charles Massé have advised me on points of history and folk-lore, points of even more interest here in the old gallic Vendée where the traditions still linger. Prof. Louis Mangin of the Natural History Museum of Paris has furnished information on iris diseases; and finally M. Auger, the proprietor of Petit Chatenay, a distinguished amateur, has permitted M. Massé to cultivate in his garden all these delightful species and to carry on over a number of years, the experiments from which we draw our experience."

### Culture of the Rhizomatous Irises under Glass.

In practise this is simply a matter of wintering plants under glass either because they are not hardy or because we wish to advance the flowering season a few weeks in order to enjoy the blooms at a time when the garden is empty. It is not always cold that occasions loss, moisture is even more fatal than cold. The frames, therefore must protect from moisture as much as from cold. We find that the plants are best grown in the open ground during the summer. At the approach of bad weather one puts on the frames with their covers. This is simple; one knows in advance the plants that must be sheltered and places them together so that they may be covered with but a few frames, so disposed that the covers are about eight inches above the plants. Except in a few cases these covers do not need to be raised as the plants are resting. The shriveled leaves do no harm and give added protection during the winter. When the cold becomes severe, leaves or strawy manure is piled about the frames and they are covered with straw or other debris. They should be aired when the weather permits and as spring approaches may be uncovered. From then on culture does not differ from that of a bed in the open.

Treated in this way, the rhizomatous irises are well-preserved and the early flowering species like *I. pumila* and *I. unguicularis* bloom abundantly and well in advance of their normal time.

Such treatment does not take into consideration permanent frames of brick or concrete but there is no essential difference in method.

## Pot Culture.

All rhizomatous irises may be grown in pots, pans, or benches and this method is particularly adapted for propagating and the growing of young plants. It is also useful for cut-flowers and one should select the most decorative species.

Plants grown in the open may be used, lifted at the convenient season and put in sufficiently large pots, they take hold well and flower finely. Plants grown in pots can be repotted at any season but if taken from the open ground this should be done after flowering. Certain kinds, however, (*I. Kaempferi* and *sibirica*, to cite but two) may be taken up in full bloom if carefully watered and used for decoration where cut flowers would not suffice.

The soil used should be that required for out-door culture with a little extra in addition; heavy for some species, light and calcareous for others. Drainage in the pots, potsherd, sand, or other coarse material is necessary as stagnant water is harmful, even for species that require moisture.

The exaggerated size of roots and rhizomes indicates the need for repotting but shallow rather than deep pots are recommended. Whether hardy or not, potted iris should be kept from freezing as even if the plants did not suffer, the pots are apt to be cracked. Subsequent care is that required by the individual species.

It will be particularly desirable and interesting to see the custom of growing irises in pots extended as they possess an ornamental value beyond praise. They can, with their pretty foliage and flowers, so variously colored, contribute, for many months of the year, to the charm of conservatories, winter gardens, steps, and verandahs. The earlier kinds such as *I. pumila* and *I. unguicularis* bloom at a most welcome season—January to March—even when simply grown in frames or a cool house. They are followed by *I. olbiensis*, *biflora*, *bosniaca*, varieties of *germanica*, and *I. florentina*. Then later comes *I. kaempferi* with its many varieties in such varied colors as to rival the most brilliant of exotic orchids.

One is amply recompensed for his work and forgets his past difficulties when he sees these gracious flowers display before our dazzled eyes their superb opening. Their presence gives charm and beauty to the house, their delicious fragrance fills the soul with poetry and awakens in our hearts the love of the divine.

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## ACTIVITIES DURING 1925

**Publications:** Bulletin No. 14, "Bertrand H. Farr"; Bulletin 15; Bulletin 16, "A Report on the Sterility of Irises" (Dated July but issued in Dec.); Bulletin No. 17, (Dated October but issued Jan. 1926). 1925 Members also received Bulletin No. 1, (while available) of The Iris Society (England) and Cornell Extension Bulletin No. 112. Bulletin No. 2 of The Iris Society (\$1.00) and Addisonia Vol. 9, No. 4. (\$2.00) are also available by application to the treasurer.

**Awards:** Although Certificates of Honorable Mention were given "Cacique" (Berry) was the only variety to be registered as required by our rules. **Silver Medal:** Mrs. E. J. Spencer (Columbus); Sydney B. Mitchell (Alameda Co.); Mrs. H. B. Tillotson (Minneapolis); **Bronze Medals:** Mrs. Azro Fellows (Belvidere); Mrs. H. H. Sheriff (Des Moines); F. G. Shaible (Freeport); Miss Daisy Hume (Lexington); Clarence G. White (Redlands); Will McClelland (Saginaw); M. E. Boucher (Minneapolis); Mrs. A. F. Schulte (Alameda Co.) Omission 1922, S. Stillman Berry (Redlands).

It is with deep sorrow that I report the death of W. R. Dykes, M. A., L.-es-L. Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society. Bulletin 19 or 20 will be devoted to his work.

No report of the activities of the year would be complete without mention of the work of Drs. Small and Reed (Dr. Stout has already given us his report on iris sterilities). Dr. Small is continuing his studies of native species and has accumulated a vast amount of material at the Bronx garden. At the Annual Meeting he illustrated his report by reference to preserved samples of flowers, to various types of seed-pods and to colored plates prepared for future publication in *Addisonia*. It is unfortunate that the cost of reproduction in color prevents the Society from cooperating more fully in his work. The work of Dr. Reed with the Japanese Irises is well-handled in his own report in this bulletin.

The replanting of the classification garden and the establishment of new plantings is also handled elsewhere.

#### **Meeting of the Directors, Jan. 29, 1925.**

**Authorized:** the publication of a Black List and a White List of iris varieties; that the surplus from the New York Test Garden be used to establish new display gardens; \$200.00 to the N. Y. Botanical Garden for the study of Iris Sterilities; \$100.00 to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden for the study of Japanese Irises; that copies of Bulletin 14 be sent both to all members of The Iris Society and to 1925 members of the A. I. S. whose dues remain unpaid at time of publication.

#### **Meeting, Oct. 30, 1925.**

**Authorized:** That the Board of Directors may accept offers of prizes provided that payment in full is made to the Treasurer; that \$200.00 be paid to the N. Y. Botanical Garden for a continuance in 1926 of the work on Iris sterility; that "Early Dwarf Bearded Irises" be adopted as the official name of the so-called *pumila* hybrids.

That complete membership lists be published as of Dec. 31, 1925 and each two years thereafter; that the names of new members be published in the intervening years; and that supplementary lists can be obtained from the Treasurer upon suitable payment.

(Upon recommendation of the Treasurer) That a three-year membership of \$8.50 be offered; that any surplus on Dec. 31st be transferred to the Life Membership Fund to bring the total thereof to an amount corresponding to \$50.00 per fire member; that a "membership card be sent each member upon payment of dues."

That a sticker (as follows) be attached to the folder entitled "Exhibition Policy and Management".

**AWARDS and Supplies.** A. I. S. Certificates of Honorable Mention for Seedlings and One Bronze Medal as a Sweepstake will be offered at all authorized exhibits. Silver Medals, offered as a Sweepstake Prize, are intended for large shows and require special authorization. No Gold Medals have been authorized.

#### **6th Annual Meeting, New York Botanical Garden, Oct. 30, 1925.**

The 6th Annual Meeting of The American Iris Society was held at the "Museum Building" of the N. Y. Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York City, at 3 P. M., Oct. 30, 1925, the president in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting and annual reports read and placed on file.

On motion of Mr. Lewis R. Smith the adoption of "Roberts Rules of Order" was put to the vote; amended by Mrs. Smith to read "Roberts Rules of Order, Revised". Carried. (See Note 1.)

Progress reports were read by Dr. J. K. Small and Dr. George M. Reed, on their work with native species and Japanese irises respectively.

Votes of thanks tendered to Dr. N. L. Britton, and the Directors of the New York Botanical Garden for their hearty cooperation and cordial hospitality. To John Hartling for his intelligent direction of the work of the Trial Garden. To Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham and Miss Content Peckham for their active cooperation in replanting the Trial Garden and the distribution of plants to other gardens.

The following resolution adopted at the Regional Meeting of the Society at Cincinnati, June 9, 1925, was read by the Secretary:

"Whereas: the members of the local section of The American Iris Society in an attempt to use the pamphlet entitled "American Iris Society, Exhibition Policy and Management", in connection with the local show of 1925, have discovered that in many instances it is indefinite; and

"Whereas: in carrying out the wording of this pamphlet in preparation of our schedule as to classes, awards, prizes, etc., in connection with our recent local show, we find ourselves, owing to the arbitrary ruling of the Secretary of the American Iris Society, in a most embarrassing position, and

"Whereas: in correspondence concerning this matter with the Secretary

of the American Iris Society, he has made no suggestion as to clarifying this pamphlet;

"Therefore, be it

"Resolved: First: that at the next Annual Meeting of The American Iris Society, following the date of this resolution, that the matter of amending this aforesaid pamphlet "American Iris Society, Exhibition Policy and Management" be made a special order of business; that at this time said pamphlet be amended and ordered to be republished, its contents to be definite and concise.

"Second: that the Secretary of the American Iris Society give the proper notice to the entire membership, stating time, place, and purpose of this resolution.

"Done at Cincinnati this ninth (9th) day of June A.D. 1925.

"Adopted.

(Signed) Mrs. Samuel H. Taft, Regional Vice-President.

E. E. Hardestale, Secretary."

After long discussion Mr. Becker moved for a vote of approval of the recommendations of the Directors and after further discussion this vote was put and carried. (See Note 2.)

Voted, on motion of Mr. Smith that the Society award the medal in question as originally suggested by the Secretary. (See Note 3.)

On motion of Mr. Smith, the president was authorized to appoint a committee to consider and report at the next annual meeting a suggestion from Mr. Campbell proposing that no new variety receive published mention until judged in a Trial Garden and officially rated. The committee was further empowered to consider more generally the question of regulating introductions. (See Note 4.)

On motion of Mr. Smith the president was authorized to appoint committees to draw up a list of judges to act at exhibitions and to discuss the question of the payment of judges' expenses and fees, the reports to be presented at the next annual meeting. (See Note 5.)

The tellers, Lewis R. Smith, Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham, and Kenneth R. Boynton then reported a total of 333 ballots, 103 from the Central Region, divided as follows: Mrs. Samuel H. Taft, 52; Mrs. Lewis R. Smith, 41, incorrectly marked, 10.

The officers were then declared elected in accordance with the report.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned at 6.45 P.M.

R. S. Sturtevant,  
Secretary.

**Note 1.** Illegally passed (by vote of 6 to 5) as a two-thirds vote is required for any by-law (see Constitution, Art. 8).

**Note 2.** "That a sticker be attached to the pamphlet entitled "Exhibition Policy and Management" to read "A.I.S. Certificates of Honorable Mention for Seedlings and One Bronze Medal as a Sweepstake will be offered at all authorized exhibits."

**Note 3.** As the individual to whom the award was made refuses to receive the medal I omit all detailed report.

**Note 4.** Mr. Frank W. Campbell, Chairman; Mrs. Lewis R. Smith, Mrs. Douglas Pattison later appointed by the President.

**Note 5.** Mrs. Lewis R. Smith, Chairman; T. F. Donahue, C. P. Connell, E. O. James, Frank W. Campbell, Mrs. Douglas Pattison, and H. S. Jackson later appointed by the President.

## OFFICERS

As Mr. Lewis R. Smith stated at the meeting of the Directors on Jan. 9, 1926, that "It took me three weeks or more to find out who were in office" and as Mr. Smith also states that the appointment of Mrs. W. H. Peckham and James Boyd as Directors, by the board, is illegal I give below the full list of officers, their terms, and such sections of the Constitution of The American Iris Society as seem applicable to the case.

The Board of Directors regrets that the error in the ballot voted on Oct. 30, 1925, should have been overlooked by the officers, the Board, and all members of the Society at the time of the election, but it considers the appointment of Mrs. Peckham and Mr. Boyd as Directors to succeed themselves in accord both with the constitution and with the wishes of the members.

Art. 5, Section 2. The election of officers shall be at an Annual Meeting by ballot, in person or by mail. Nomination shall be made by the Board of Directors on the written request of five members, at least 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting. The President, Vice President, Regional Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer shall hold office for the succeeding calendar year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

All officers and Directors elected at the Organization Meeting, Jan. 29, 1920, were re-elected at the 1st Annual Meeting, June 1, 1920.

In the following list the dates given are for separate terms of office.

**President**—John C. Wister, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

**Vice President**—William A. Peterson, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924.

Franklin B. Mead, 1925. Elected May 27, 1924. Resigned Nov. 1925.

E. B. Williamson, 1926 (Appointed by the Board by ballot mailed Feb. 10, 1926, but acceptance not received to date).

**Secretary**—R. S. Sturtevant, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

**Treasurer**—Frank H. Presby, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924.

Arthur H. Scott, Nov. 26, 1924, 1925, 1926. Mr. Presby died Nov. 9, 1924. A. H. Scott was appointed by the Board, ballots mailed Nov. 26, 1924, as authorized by the constitution, Art. 6, Sec. 6.

#### DIRECTORS

Article 5, Section 4. The six other members of the Board of Directors shall be elected as follows:—At the first Annual Meeting held under this constitution two directors shall be elected for one year, two for two years, and two for three years; and at each subsequent Annual Meeting two shall be elected for three years. Article 6, Section 6. The Board of Directors—is empowered to fill vacancies in the officers or Board of Directors, such appointments to hold until the next authorized election.

In the following list the date (Dec. 31, 192 ) specified is that of the expiration of the term of office.

**Elected at Philadelphia, June 1, 1920.** I. S. Hendrickson and Edwin C. Shaw. 1921. James Boyd and Bertrand H. Farr. 1922. Dr. H. A. Gleason and Harry A. Norton. 1923.

**Elected at Columbus, Ohio, May 20, 1921.** Mrs. C. S. McKinney and Mrs. H. G. Lloyd. 1924.

**Elected at New York, May 22, 1922.** James Boyd and Bertrand H. Farr. 1925.

Mr. Farr died in October, 1924. Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham was appointed by ballots mailed to the Directors Nov. 26, 1924, to complete the unexpired term, as authorized, Art. 6, Sec. 6.

**Elected at New Rochelle, June 1, 1923.** Mrs. Walter S. Brewster and Harry A. Norton. 1926.

**Elected at Washington, May 27, 1924.** Mrs. H. G. Lloyd and Mrs. C. S. McKinney. 1927.

**Voted upon at New York, Oct. 30, 1925.** Mrs. H. G. Lloyd and Mrs. C. S. McKinney were nominated through error as to expiration of term and the ballot was therefore void. In accordance with Art. 6, Section 6, the following members were appointed by ballots mailed the Directors, Nov. 14, 1925. Mrs. W. H. Peckham and James Boyd. 1928.

#### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Art. 4, Sec. 3. The Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected by the active members resident within the district or, lacking such action, may be appointed by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Members appointed at the organization meeting, Jan. 29, 1920, were re-elected at the Annual Meeting, June 1, 1920.

**Eastern Region**—including the states from New England to Virginia inclusive; B. Y. Morrison, 1920-21. I. S. Hendrickson, 1922, 1923; Dr. H. A. Gleason, 1924, 1925; Prof. A. P. Saunders, 1926.

**Central Region**—including the states of Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois; Mrs. Samuel H. Taft, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, resigned when notified of election for 1926. Franklin B. Mead, 1925-1926.

**Western Region**—including the states of Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Colorado and all states between; T. A. Kenning, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

**Southern Region**—including all states south of three preceding districts. Floyd Bralliar, 1920-21. C. P. Connell, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

**Pacific Region**—including Idaho, Utah, New Mexico and all states to the westward; Sydney B. Mitchell, 1920-21, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

**Canadian Region**—Dr. F. E. Bennett, 1920-21, 1922; W. E. Saunders, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926.

Note—At the 2nd Meeting of the Directors, Mar. 18, 1920, Regional Vice Presidents were authorized to spend not over \$25.00 in connection with local shows. This appropriation has been called for but once, previous to 1926.

At the 3rd Meeting of the Directors, Mar. 17, 1921, the payment of the expenses of the President, Secretary and Treasurer to meetings was authorized.

Members should note that only twice has there been any question of a contest for office. Under Art. 5, Section 2, nominations are placed on the ballot at the request of any five members, and as this ballot should go out at least 30 days in advance of the annual meeting, members are urged not to wait till the last minute in forwarding nominations to the secretary.



# Treasurer's Report

OCT. 30, 1925.

An increase of 20% in our membership this year with a resultant addition to income, has made it possible for us to contribute \$200 for Research in Sterility of Iris and \$100 for special work on Japanese Iris, and still finish the year with a surplus.

As indicated on the statement of Financial Condition, we have at this time \$1,606.40 available for expenses of the Society. There are two (2) Bulletins yet to be issued, the cost of which together with other items, will reduce this balance to \$400 or \$500.\* I recommend that the surplus remaining at the end of the year be transferred to the Reserve for Life Memberships.

The income from the present Investment Fund of \$1351.92 is not sufficient to maintain thirty-eight (38) Life Memberships, most of which were taken out when the dues were \$25.00. By increasing the Investment Fund to \$1900 (\$50.00 for each member) the Life Membership will be self supporting.

I believe that a three (3) year membership with dues of \$8.50 would be attractive to many members. Simplification of records and interest on prepaid dues makes this kind of membership desirable from the Society's standpoint. The number of members who would not renew from year to year should be reduced by this means also.

Administrative Expenses this year will amount to not more than \$500, compared with \$792.37 last year. Possibly, we have been too sparing in the use of stationery and have not met all the demands of the members. For one thing, a Membership Card should be given to each member, signed by the Treasurer and possibly by the President, certifying that the particular member belongs.

I am afraid we have done too much this year to get new members and too little to retain their interest after getting them. Prospective members respond most readily when we tell them about the Bulletins issued by the Society. If the Bulletins could be issued on a specified date, we would not be subject to criticism which members are justified in making now.

I regret that this report could not be presented in person, but Mr. Wister is in close touch with the Treasurer's Office and can explain any items on the Financial Report which are not self explanatory.

A. H. SCOTT, Treasurer.

## President's Report

FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1925

During the past year your officers and directors have done their best to keep the Iris Society affairs moving at a steady pace, and we feel gratified to know of the active support of the old members, and are of course greatly pleased to report the large number of new members who have joined during the year.

My own chief interest has concerned the new public plantings of Iris at Bronx Park and elsewhere. As announced in our Bulletins, Dr. Britton was good enough to give us additional space and in July 1924 a new garden was planted of more than 1,000 varieties, one plant of each variety planted alphabetically in long beds. This planting is now well

\*Balance probably much less. Financial statement of Dec. 31, 1925, not yet available.

established and it is possible for anyone to find a particular variety that he wants to see there quickly. There are still gaps in this garden, which have been announced from time to time, and if any of you have plants of the varieties needed I hope you will send them in.

I wish also again to call attention to the important testing of new varieties which is to be carried on here each year, and the first awards under this plan are to be made in the spring of 1926 from plants that were planted in July 1924. The scheme is probably not perfect but seemed the best that could be devised. We have talked about it many times in directors meetings and it was finally brought to its present form at a meeting in Boston by Mr. Sturtevant, Prof. Saunders, Mr. S. B. Mitchell and myself. Under this scheme varieties that are introduced into commerce are sent to the garden the year they are introduced. When they are received the name is taken off and a garden number put on, the name recorded in a book kept by the head gardener. All the varieties are then grown under number, and they are to be judged by the best judges that we can find each year in blooming season, the best variety being awarded a silver medal and others being given certificates. I hope very much that this scheme will work out well. Certainly for the first years a very satisfactory number of plants has been sent in.

In July 1925 the old Test Garden was dug up and replanted, using something over 200 of the best varieties in mass to give fine color effects. This garden will give some bloom next year but of course will not be at its best until 1927, but the alphabetical garden will be at its best in 1926 and will be well worth a visit. The great progress that we have made in this work has been due to the untiring energy of Mrs. Peckham, who has visited the garden almost daily in the blooming season, and who has worked there for weeks at a time during the replanting work.

We have been able to send surplus plants from the Bronx Park garden to many other communities where Test or Exhibition Gardens are being started. A full list of these gardens appears elsewhere in this bulletin, but briefly there are now over a dozen of them and I hope that another dozen or so may be started in different parts of the country in 1926. It is the belief of your officers and directors that the popularity of the Iris can best be increased by keeping these gardens comparatively small, that is to have 35 of the best varieties or not more than 100, rather than to have big collections of 400 or 500 varieties which only serve to confuse people.

Exhibitions have been held as usual in many parts of the country. I hope that the number of these also may continue to increase, as enthusiastic members are found who are willing to undertake the work of making these a success. It is a great pleasure to announce the appointment of Mrs. J. Edgar Hires of Ardmore, Pa., as chairman of our new Exhibition Committee.

I am more and more firmly convinced that the great number of varieties being grown is a liability to the Iris rather than an asset, and I feel that the society should more and more concentrate its efforts in popularizing the best 100 or 200 kinds, and at the same time eliminating from its lists the poorer kinds which serve no useful purpose. I realize very well that this is a difficult thing to accomplish, and Mr. F. W. Campbell of Detroit has been appointed Chairman of a special committee to consider this important matter.

There continues to be a great difference of opinion as to how often we should print a membership list. As this list is valuable chiefly to nurserymen, some members feel that it should not be sent free to all members but should be sold separately. Others have suggested that commercial members should pay higher dues, possibly \$10 or even \$20

a year, in order to get this list. No action has yet been taken on these suggestions. The minutes of the directors meeting of October 30th show clearly our present policy.

The Secretary and I have kept track during the summer as usual of the new Iris seedlings that have been registered and also those that have been introduced by various people and who did not take the trouble to register them, so that we are now able to publish a list of the introductions of the year.

I have had quite a discussion with a number of members to see when they felt the society ought to go to the expense of printing a new check list. We published one in 1921 and one in 1923, so that another one might well be printed in 1926 if it seems to the members and the officers and directors a wise thing to do. There can be no doubt but what these check lists have served a very useful purpose in straightening up confusions of nomenclature, and it is also true that our last check list is now woefully out of date. I would like to hear expressions of opinion whether it might be wise to make the list smaller and to officially drop therefrom many of the undesirable varieties which are now included in it. We might also discuss whether this society could follow in a way the policy of the American Pomological Society which added varieties to their list in certain years and dropped them a certain number of years later, for reasons which are not fully outlined in their publications but which I understand coincide with the period in which the variety came into general commerce and the year in which it is dropped from commercial lists and ceases to be important as an orchard fruit.

We published last year a tentative classification of Iris and while I believe it is the best piece of work that has been done on that subject I have already found it woefully inadequate, and I have appointed Mr. F. W. Campbell Chairman of a committee to work on this classification during the blooming period and straighten out its confusions and contradictions, and also if possible to simplify it. It seems to me that the Daffodil classification of the Royal Horticultural Society presents a most simple, clear and definite piece of work which we should do well to follow if we could, but our problem is a much more complicated one, as the Iris covers such a long season of bloom and a much wider range of form and color. It seems certain, however, that if we can get a good classification that it will be possible to put new varieties into it quickly as they appear, and it will undoubtedly prevent the introduction of many varieties that are not needed.

I have tried to cover just a few of the most important parts of the work of the society. What we need is much more activity among the officers, directors, and members. Our trouble has always been that we are all of us so busy with other things and do not give the society the attention it deserves, and I would feel it a great favor if any and all members would express themselves more freely to me. Their criticisms, their suggestions or their hopes are all needed if we are to make the society really a society of the members and not a society of a small governing body. It would not be right to close this report without informing the members that criticisms and complaints have been made by a few members, concerning the management of the society. As I have just said, the officers and directors are busy people who voluntarily give their time for the work of the society, and while they have done their best, the society has never functioned with the efficiency of a well-managed business. I say this with no spirit of apology because similar conditions exist in all similar organizations with which I am familiar, and I hope and believe that most of our members appreciate the work we have accomplished since 1920 enough to forgive the shortcomings and errors.

many of which are quite obvious. Correspondence has been tardily answered, Bulletins have been late, and have contained many mistakes. A serious error was made on the 1925 ballot with the result that on November 1, 1925, we had two vacancies on the board of directors. These vacancies have been filled by election as authorized under Article 6, Section 6 of the Constitution so that no real harm has been done. I mention this because one member has considered the matter serious enough to ask permission to appear before the board and to advise us that this action was in his opinion illegal, and that many other actions had been either illegal or unwise. I regret to place this matter on record but feel it my duty to do so. I can only say again that I hope that the great majority of our members feel that the society has been worthwhile in spite of its shortcomings, and that the officers are doing their best. While it has been a labor of love that we have all enjoyed doing, we have enjoyed it only because we felt that we were accomplishing results that were really worth while, and because we have felt that nearly all of our members have been pleased with the results of our efforts.

John C. Wister.

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## Exhibits, 1925

Before listing the exhibits and the often meagre reports forwarded to the office I wish to give publicity to certain comments from Mr. Campbell who has proved himself both competent and popular as a judge:

"Try getting your stalks to the hall the night before the show and let their condition help you win. Stems left horizontally however permit the blooms to assume a side-wise position.

"Label correctly and plainly but arrange the entry cards in such a way that the judges cannot recognize the hand-writing of the exhibitor. (In big shows these are often typed by a stenographer at the show).

"Exhibit on tables not over 2 ft. in height.

"I have never yet seen an alphabetical arrangement of varieties as an educational exhibit and it would be a good co-operative plan.

"Give prizes to new exhibitors in order to keep the show growing from year to year."

Mr. Campbell this last year offered some fine prizes with this in view and I would advise Show Managers to so arrange the schedule as to encourage the small exhibitor. We do not advise differentiation between commercial or non-commercial or large and small growers as such but it is extremely easy to enlarge the amateur group of classes at the expense of the open group to whatever extent seems justified by prevailing conditions. The customary schedule has 22 classes in the first group, 3 in the second and a change in this ratio to 11 to 12 will immediately give the beginner an increased opportunity.

The exhibit of the Belvidere Iris Society on May 29th suffered from the poor condition of the flowers due to unfavorable weather but there were some thirty competitors and 300 varieties entered. Mr. Jacob Sass acted as judge and awarded the Bronze Medal to our old friend Mrs. Azro Fellows to whom is due the popularity of the Society in this part of Illinois.

On June 3rd and 4th the Canadian Peony and Iris Society staged their first show at Brantford, Ontario, and I hope that another year we shall be given the opportunity of cooperation.

Mr. Petrie reports that he judged at an Iris show at Caldwell, Idaho on May 16 and that the local woman's club plans to continue the custom.

The report of the Cincinnati Show was the best I have ever had the good fortune to receive and I am looking forward to an even finer exhibit in 1926. Mrs. Smith deserves much credit for the report and the publicity was also unusually well-handled. If anything the prizes were more than adequate and with so many good workers it seems difficult not to omit mention of some-one. Mrs. Taft as Regional Vice-President, Dr. Ayres as Chairman of the Show Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. Hardcastle, in fact all our members seem to have come together. Mrs. Emigholz won the Sweepstake, a Silver Cup presented by Dr. Ayres for a three year competition, and Mrs. Smith was but a point behind. To outsiders the seedling exhibit will prove of greatest interest. Mr. Wareham, of course, led the field, but Dr. Ayres ran him a close second and Mrs. Emigholz, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Saur also entered. The judges, C. P. Connell, Lee R. Bonnewitz, and Frank W. Campbell awarded three certificates of Honorable Mention with the following notes as to the seedlings thus honored.

Seedling No. 1B. belonging to John Dee Wareham. Rating 83. Awarded a Bronze Medal through a misunderstanding of the rules of the Society. Award refused by Mr. Wareham.

"Most outstanding yellow known,—deeper toned than Shekinah, more nearly Empire in tone, deeper than Chasseur with no brown spotting. Its falls flare; standards flare; reticulations somewhat too conspicuous; stalk 26-28; better than Shekinah."

Seedling No. 9 shown by John Dee Wareham. Rating 80.

"Texture excellent, contrasty beard; color of Majestic but falls more drooping."

Seedling No. 221, shown by Dr. Wylie-McL. Ayres. Rating 80.

"Better than Mt. Penn up close, but same in distance; redder than Magnificent (Fryer)."

As I saw many of the Cincinnati seedlings in 1924 I can appreciate the conservatism of the judges but I must acknowledge that the notes, as descriptions, are rather difficult to interpret. I, at least, saw a number of beauties that would answer these descriptions.

The Columbus Iris Society was also up to the mark again this year and Mrs. E. J. Spencer swept a field of 44 and won the Silver Medal. With Messrs. Burchfield, Mead, and Phillips, as judges there is no doubt as to the merit of the display.

The Mid-Western Peony and Iris Society already numbers some 80 odd members and with their success in exhibiting merit an ever-increasing membership. I am glad that we can help them in establishing an iris planting at Ames, Iowa. The exhibit of seedlings staged by the judges, H. P. and Jacob Sass, was of great interest and I should have liked to see Jubilee with her cohorts of sister seedlings and Autumn King with its array of fall blooming brothers. The managers were fortunate in a gray background for the exhibit, as the walls, the tiled floor, and even the burlap covering for the tables were all of gray. It is rather unusual to charge admission to an iris show but the Des Moines people proved that well over 500 people would pay \$.25 a piece for the privilege. The exhibit proved most successful despite the fact that the date was set a week too early for Des Moines gardens. This explains perhaps why Mrs. H. H. Sheriff from Oskaloosa carried off the Bronze Medal when Mrs. Du Mont and others of our members have far from small collections.

The 3rd Annual Iris Show of the Freeport, Ill. Garden Club was staged on May 28th and 29th and there were visitors from nineteen states. Messrs. Sass and Christman acted as judges. Mrs. W. A. Stevens won the Silver Cup presented by Mrs. W. L. Karcher and F. G. Shaible won the Bronze Medal. The exhibit of Mrs. Douglas Pattison including as it did many novelties, proved a centre of attraction and to quote the local Journal Standard "nothing has worked for the beauty and improvement of Freeport more than the Garden Club under the direction of Mrs. Karcher.

Messrs. Shull and Wister judged at the Harrisburg Show on May 28th and though it was not an A. I. S. exhibit I was struck by the wording of certain classes: viz. "Best exhibit of correctly named varieties by an exhibitor who has not before shown at a previous show" and again in the same line, "to the exhibitor making the best showing from his own garden, which contains less than twenty varieties, a prize of an equal number of varieties of real merit." Surely here is a worthwhile idea in the spread of iris interest. Among the prizes also were 3 memberships in the A. I. S.

Wilmington, Delaware, Indianapolis, and unless I am much mistaken, Logansport, Ind. were all responsible for iris exhibits this last season. In Kansas City, Mrs. Barada ran a publicity campaign at the big Spring Flower Show while Mrs. Percy W. Smith is developing a planting at the Girls' Home, and Mr. Carpenter staged an exhibit at Parsons of over 125 varieties. It certainly seems that a local organization would be worth having in this vicinity.

Miss Daisy Hume, the competent secretary of the Lexington, Ky. show, was rewarded with the Bronze Medal as a Sweepstake prize and I rather think the excitement reduced the extent of her report though I was glad to note that Dr. Scott and Mrs. Frank T. McFarland were close competitors.

I was extremely sorry that, for this year, we had to refuse our Lynchburg, Va. friends a Bronze Medal as there were only three members interested. Miss Kinnier however sent in a fine report as usual. As in other sections of the country the season was unfavorable but even at that there were some 59 exhibitors and a showing of fine varieties. All in all the show reached a much higher standard than in previous years.

At Minneapolis Mrs. H. B. Tillotson won the Silver Medal and M. E. Boucher the Bronze.

The Mount Vernon, N. Y. exhibit was held in cooperation with The Garden Clubs of New Rochelle, Larchmont, Pelham, and Scarsdale and it was most unfortunate that a hail storm should have injured the flowers. Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham and Mr. Louis Schmidt won 1st and 2nd respectively for the greatest number of points but neither considered their exhibits worthy of the medals at their disposal. Mrs. Peckham reports that in a number of instances the judges did not disqualify unlabeled exhibits nor varieties clearly contrary to the statement of the schedule. This question of color in the specimen stalk classes can best be decided by reference to the classification by both exhibitors and judges. In this case the judges were above criticism BUT laid themselves open to justifiable criticism at that.

Mrs. Wright reports from Nashville that the exhibits of seedlings by Mr. Connell and Dr. Kirkland were unusually fine and that the exhibit on a whole was marked by the high quality of the varieties staged.

Redlands, Calif. was one of the few places that suffered from nothing more than a hot-spell and Clarence G. White carried off the Sweepstake Medal and also a Trophy for the most perfect exhibit, six magnificent spikes of Avalon. Miss Hinckley was also a winner and though Mr. Berry's big display was not in competition he won an Honorable Mention for his seedling "Cacique" a fulva cross even richer and larger than Dorothea K. Williamson. The judging committee Messrs. Fisher, White, Milliken, Miss Hinckley and Mrs. Dean were most anxious to make some award for the splendid showings of Aphrodite, William Mohr, Primrose, and Mrs. Marian Cran. In various classes varieties were judged 1st, 2nd, and 3rd as follows: Conquistador, San Gabriel, Sindjka; San Gabriel, Balboa, Mme. Cheri; with specials to Conquistador, Yellow Moon, True Delight, and Rialgar; Alcazar, Prosper Laugier, Jeanne d'Arc; Avalon, Mme. Gaudichau, Damozel, specials Valkyrie, Lent A. Williamson; surely as fine a selection as can be found in any part of the country.

From report I gather that the Richmond, Va. exhibit was not up to its usual standard (due to the weather). Mrs. A. B. Bauer won the Sweepstake but not the medal which remained unawarded.

Although an exhibit was held at Rockford, Ill. I have not yet been favored with a report as to the award of the Bronze Medal authorized.

At Saginaw, Michigan, Mr. McClelland again won the Medal with A. E. Scharffer a good second. This is the fourth annual exhibit of the Garden department of the Woman's Club and Mrs. Rolla W. Roberts was again in charge.

In closing I would urge members not only to take advantage of the opportunities we offer but to communicate their plans to Mrs. J. Edgar Hires, Ardmore, Pa., the Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions.

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## Report, 1925

### Test Garden at the New York Botanical Garden.

The centre group of beds ranging from 1 to 12 inclusive, has been cleared and replanted to color according to a plan made by Mr. Wister, Mr. Sturtevant and myself. We did not adhere to the American Iris Society Classification, but have used it to a certain extent only, changing it where necessary to give a good effect. Thus, in the white and plicata beds we have introduced dark blends that would have been lost if all were planted together and in the blue side of the garden we have put some pink, as Her Majesty, while in the pink side we planted a large block of pale blue. However, the colors have been kept so well in groups that it will be easy to choose the best, yellow, etc. etc. The plants had to be divided into single rhizomes to make an even growth, as in many cases we would not have had sufficient plants to make a block, so the bloom will be sparse for this next season; but we hope for a fine show the year after and suggest a Field Day to be held about the end of May or the beginning of June 1927 to view the plantation. Instead of a hit or miss medley of twelve hundred varieties, good, bad, and indifferent, we now have two hundred and fifty-four varieties all rating seventy percent or over. Of these, twenty-five are dwarfs, twenty-three intermediates and the rest tall-bearded. The dwarfs are grouped in the three centre beds, 12a, 12b, 12c, and the intermediates are in beds 5 and parts of beds 6 and 4 adjacent to bed 5 so that they are concentrated in one part of the garden. Irises suitable to the rock-garden have been

put there, the crested group particularly. In the color-planting the standard is high, though some fine kinds had to be left out owing to shortage; but there is space to add them later. It is proposed to have new labels for this planting; each group to have a large plain "show label" of wood with the name of the variety and a small metal one with name of variety producer, date of introduction and accession number; viz., "Afterglow, Sturt, 1917. 48383."

In addition to the color planting five large beds of bearded irises situated below the walk were emptied and replanted and are being used as reserve for varieties under observation and for propagation.

All varieties on the Official Black List were "scrapped" and may now be found only in the Alphabetical garden for reference and identification. The surplus of good varieties of bearded irises was labelled and distributed to other test gardens, over three thousand such plants being sent out; the dividing, labelling, sorting, packing, etc., was no small portion of the work. Maps have been made in triplicate of the beds, both bearded and beardless and with the card-catalogue, kept by John Hartling, any variety may be located rapidly.

The Alphabetical Garden has been checked over and many varieties found missing. A number have been corrected and others filled in and others received during the summer have helped to close the gaps. There are still a number missing, however.

All beardless irises are now in their own section of the garden and not mixed among the bearded ones as before. Four new beds have been made for Dr. John K. Small's collection of native irises to test their hardiness in our climate and comprise about one hundred and twenty different "labels". This word is used in preference to "variety" as a few plants may be of the same variety but from a different locality and may turn out eventually to be distinct.

#### Color Planting Bearded Irises

|                                   |   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Number of beds replanted 10.      | } | Beds 1—12b inclusive |
| Number of plants set (about) 4175 |   |                      |
| Number of varieties 254           |   |                      |

#### IN THE TEST BEDS

|                            |   |                      |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Number of beds replanted 5 | } | Beds 13—17 inclusive |
| Number of plants set 679   |   |                      |
| Number of varieties 211    |   |                      |

#### NATIVE BEARDLESS IRISES

|                          |   |                      |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Number of beds planted 4 | } | Beds 22—25 inclusive |
| Number of plants set 473 |   |                      |
| Number of "labels" 120   |   |                      |

#### BEARDLESS IRISES

|                      |   |                      |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| Number of beds 4     | } | Beds 18—21 inclusive |
| Number of plants 194 |   |                      |
| Number of labels 69  |   |                      |

#### JAPANESE IRISES

|                      |   |                      |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| Number of beds 5     | } | Beds 26—31 inclusive |
| Number of plants 648 |   |                      |
| Number of labels 56. |   |                      |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Surplus plants distributed to test gardens: labelled | 2324 |
| Distributed to Park Departments: labelled, about 750 |      |
| Unlabelled, 1 six ton truck load.                    |      |
| 1 Ford truck load.                                   |      |

Plants scrapped; in the neighborhood of 6 "cubic yards".

About twenty plants of dwarfs of doubtful nomenclature were planted in Mrs. Hitchcock's garden for observation and study.

Respectfully submitted,

Anson S. Peckham



## DONORS 1925

### To Color Planting.

B. H. Farr & Co.  
Lester S. Lederer.  
New Rochelle Show Garden.  
Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham,  
Arthur Scott  
Mrs. Thomas of Twin Larches  
Robert Wayman  
John C. Wister

### To Alphabetical Planting.

Miss M. R. Case  
H. F. Chase  
Mrs. Willard C. Brinton  
B. H. Farr & Co.  
Mrs. J. G. Walker  
Wm. S. Johnson  
Hardie Baugh  
Chas. L. Gowe  
Mrs. Anna Livingston  
Louis Schmidt  
J. C. Wister

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## Exhibition Garden, Springfield, Mass.

The idea of an iris garden at Forest Park came in the fall of 1922, after a suggestion from the Springfield Garden Club that a collection of the better varieties of this beautiful perennial would be of great interest to the flower lovers of the Connecticut Valley.

A small plot of land with a southern exposure, located near our green house at Forest Park was selected and a plan was drawn by Herbert Wallace, beadle, Park Department, Landscape Artist. The outer wall of the garden is formed by a hedge of flowering shrubs, evergreens and perennials. Gladioli are massed in this planting to give color.

Requests were sent out to nurserymen and iris growers in the east, asking for five roots each of any variety they might care to donate, the condition being that the name of the donor should appear on the label.

The generous response was far in excess of our fondest dreams, until at the present time we have some over two hundred varieties, very few of which have been purchased.

This garden has grown in popularity until during the blooming season this spring we had "holiday crowds" every day.

Charles M. Ladd, Asst. Supt. of Parks.

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## Report on Show Garden at New Rochelle, N.Y.

When the intermediates were in bloom we checked up on all the beds and took out all duplicates of which there were quite a number, sending them to Hudson Park where they were heeled in for us. Later we held a sale of iris plants collected from members. As a result of this sale we were able to buy a handsome stone seat for the garden. All the varieties sold were worth while and each plant was correctly labelled. The Garden Club of New Rochelle gave \$25.00 for new plants and we purchased some of the better sorts with the money. We also received about sixty varieties we were in need of from the surplus when the color plantings was made at the New York Botanical Garden. We now have a collection of about three hundred and twenty-five varieties including beardless and Japanese. We feel our garden has inspired the Larchmont and Mt. Vernon libraries as they each started an iris show garden on their library grounds this summer. As the Garden Club continued the sale of the plants left over from our sale we feel a great many good irises were started in gardens in New Rochelle last summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Anson S. Peckham

# The Test Garden for Apogon Irises

George M. Reed

In the bulletin of the American Iris Society for April, 1925 a brief statement of proposed plans for the study of the Apogon irises at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden was outlined. The present report is an account of the progress made during the past year.

Previous to the fall of 1924 a collection of about eighty varieties of Japanese irises had been assembled through the co-operation of the American Iris Society and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. During the past year very extensive additions have been made, not only to the Japanese irises but other Apogons as well. Some of the plants were received in the fall of 1924 but most of them were obtained in 1925. The sources of the Japanese varieties were as follows:

|                          |                       |              |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| John Lewis Childs, Inc.  | Flowerfield, L. I.    | 82 varieties |
| Bobbink & Atkins         | Rutherford, N. J.     | 64 "         |
| The Elm City Nursery Co. | New Haven, Conn.      | 10 "         |
| Sunnybrook Iris Garden   | Eatontown, N. J.      | 19 "         |
| Lovett's Nursery         | Little Silver, N. J.  | 29 "         |
| Moons' Nurseries         | Morrisville, Pa.      | 15 "         |
| Weed's Landscape Nursery | Beaverton, Ore.       | 53 "         |
| J. K. Alexander          | E. Bridgewater, Mass. | 15 "         |
| Wallace & Co.            | England               | 13 "         |

The collection from John Lewis Childs, Inc. includes practically all of the varieties originated as seedlings by that firm and many of the earlier introductions of Hallock were also included. The collection of Bobbink & Atkins was, for the most part, originally derived from Childs. Several of the nurseries sent two plants of each variety while the others furnished only one. A collection of thirteen varieties from J. Waterer. Crisp & Son, England, failed to survive importation. Barr & Sons, England, reported a shortage of stock and so were unable to furnish a collection in the spring of 1925. Arrangements, however, have been made for securing a number of their varieties. These collections make very valuable additions to the Test Garden. We lack, however, a number of the named varieties which have been originated in Japan and it is very desirable that these be added to the collection. Whether these are now available in the United States or not is perhaps a question. The members of the American Iris Society however, could render very valuable assistance to the project by furnishing such varieties from their gardens if they have them in their possession.

Extensive additions to the other Apogons, mainly the Siberian, Californian and Spurian groups, were also made. Seed of a large number of different species was obtained from various Botanic Gardens in different parts of the world, as well as from Perry in England and Purdy in California. Seedlings are now being grown and may be expected to bloom in 1926 or 1927. Plants of various Apogons, mainly Siberian and Spurian varieties were secured as follows:

|                          |                   |              |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Sunnybrook Iris Garden   | Eatontown, N. J.  | 12 varieties |
| Rainbow Gardens          | Farmington, Minn. | 15 "         |
| Perry's Hardy Plant Farm | England           | 21 "         |
| Wallace & Company        | England           | 12 "         |
| C. G. Van Tubergen, Jr.  | Holland           | 2 "          |

In addition to these, plants of certain species were furnished by Mr. R. S. Sturtevant, Mr. J. C. Wister and the New York Botanical Garden.

Mrs. C. S. McKinney, Madison, N. J. sent a plant of "Emperor" and also five seedlings from her own crosses. Mrs. L. M. Hitchcock, New Rochelle, N. Y., sent nine seedlings from her garden. Dr. Nancy Jenison, New York City, furnished sixteen plants from her collection.

The old collection of Japanese varieties at the Garden was lifted, sub-divided and transplanted during the past season. Mr. Montague Free, horticulturist at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, planned a set of experiments designed to give information regarding transplanting, soil conditions, fertilizing, etc. Three varieties, namely, Goldbound, Dominator and Pyramid are used in each plot. Interesting results for the first year have been obtained but naturally such experiments cannot be expected to yield final results except after several years' study.

A few plants in the Garden have died and some attention has been devoted to the study of the characteristic disease of these plants. The disease is primarily characterized by the decay of the roots and consequently, through the lack of water, the leaves wither and turn brownish. The rhizome remains essentially normal and tends to push out new roots. This disease has been observed in some of the nurseries and it may turn out to be a large factor in the disappearance of plantings of these irises.

A number of colored illustrations of different varieties were made during the blooming period. We were fortunate to obtain the services of Miss Maud H. Purdy for making these. She was able to spend most of the time during the period that the plants were in bloom and made very excellent illustrations. These have been shown to several people who are competent to judge and they have all expressed a high appreciation for their accuracy in form and coloring, as well as artistic appearance.

During the blooming period as much time as possible was devoted to a description of varieties. A full description of a considerable number was prepared, the color determinations being based on Ridgway's color chart. As a result of these studies we were able to become fairly familiar with the characteristics of a large number of varieties.

It was possible to visit a number of nurseries during the time when the Japanese irises were in bloom. One day was spent in the vicinity of Philadelphia in company with Mr. J. C. Wister. Another day we visited the Sunnybrook Iris Garden, where Mrs. Cleveland showed us her collection and also accompanied us to Lovett's Nursery where we were able to see their varieties. A visit was also made to Flowerfield, L. I. for the examination of the large collection of John Lewis Childs, Inc. Mr. I. S. Hendrickson gave us valuable information on this visit. Several trips were taken to the nursery of Bobbink & Atkins for the study of their varieties. One of these was made in company with Mr. B. Miyazawa. We were also able to visit the gardens of Mrs. C. S. McKinney of Madison, N. J. and Mrs. L. M. Hitchcock, New Rochelle, N. Y. and looked over their interesting seedlings. The collection of plants grown by Mr. A. H. Scott from seed obtained from Japan was a very interesting one. Some of his seedlings are surely as good as many named varieties. Mr. John Kemp, Little Silver, N. J., also had a few seedlings which he had selected out of a much larger number. The possibility of raising these irises from seed is a very interesting one.

Most of the plants have been donated by the nurseries for their study. In addition to these gifts of plants a number of individuals have furnished funds for the project. The donors are as follows:

|   |              |      |
|---|--------------|------|
| American Iris Society (per A. H. Scott, Treas.) | \$100.00     |      |
| C. H. Hall                                      | Ingomar, Pa. | 5.00 |

|                       |                            |         |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| T. A. Havemeyer       | 25 Broadway, N. Y. City    | \$25.00 |
| Harlan P. Kelsey      | Salem, Mass.               | 5.00    |
| Wm. J. Matheson       | Coconut Grove, Fla.        | 200.00  |
| Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham | New Rochelle, N. Y.        | 52.00   |
| Stump & Walter        | 30 Barclay St., N. Y. City | 25.00   |
| Louis C. Tiffany      | Fifth Ave., N. Y. City     | 75.00   |
| Robert Wayman         | Bayside, L. L.             | 20.00   |

These funds were used for paying for the services of the artist, the travelling expenses incurred, plants imported and photographing.

A few words may be added regarding plans for 1926. We have the promise of a number of additional varieties from a few nurseries. We hope especially to be able to secure, as mentioned above, varieties that were developed in Japan. So far as possible additional descriptions of varieties will be prepared, and the descriptions made last year again checked up. We expect to have Miss Purdy make colored illustrations of additional varieties. The experimental plots will be continued and extended and we shall look forward with a great deal of interest to the year's results as they should throw considerable light on some of the problems.

It may be possible to have sufficient information at the end of the year to devote a bulletin of the American Iris Society to the Japanese irises. Whether this will be possible or not will depend upon the progress made during the current season.

## Trial and Display Garden Policy

In 1920 the Society entered into three co-operative agreements—first with the New York Botanical Garden for a complete trial garden, second with the New York State College of Agriculture for a trial garden of Bearded Irises, and third with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden for a Trial of Japanese Irises. Of these three the first has received much attention from the officers and members of the Society and is to be maintained as THE complete trial garden of the Society. The work of Dr. Stout as reported in Bulletin No. 16 and its continuance in 1926 is based upon the plants in this garden. The investigations of Dr. J. K. Small as reported in Addisonia is from the same sources though in this case the Society has been inactive.

The second agreement produced the Cornell Extension Bulletin No. 112 (a second is announced) but the Society deserves little credit for its co-operation although it has contributed many varieties.

The third agreement, that with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, is now beginning to show results and promises much for the future.

More recently there has been an informal development of an official planting at Hillcrest, Weston, Mass.; and it is from the surplus plants here and at the big trial garden at the Bronx that the Society is in a position to cooperate in the establishment of public plantings throughout the country. In 1925 contributions of plants were sent to some ten to twelve plantings and it is hoped that our surplus will permit similar distributions this coming year.

The Bronx Garden seems sufficient for a record collection of all available varieties and the Society now seeks to establish two distinct types of gardens.

1st. **The Trial Gardens:** these will be relatively few in number, well-distributed geographically, and established **only** in cooperation with some established public institution that is able and willing to study and

report upon some phase of iris interests. This is a matter of formal agreement and the Society will endeavor to supply a large collection of varieties, to keep such a collection up-to-date and to arrange with its members for active cooperation in its arrangement and use.

**2nd. The Display Gardens:** These may be established in any town or city where members of the Society can obtain official cooperation and where the local members can enter into a very simple form of agreement with the Society. The object of such a garden is primarily that of public display, the effective planting of representative varieties in mass. Such a planting may or may not serve as a basis for reports on hardiness, etc., but it should serve as an example of the value and variety of irises as garden flowers. Such display gardens have already been started at New Rochelle and Larchmont, N. Y., Springfield, Mass., New Haven, Conn., St. Louis, Mo., Columbus, Ohio, and elsewhere, and applications for such cooperations are now at hand from Ames, Iowa, Cincinnati, O., Vinton, Iowa, Merriam, Kansas, Chicago, Ill., Lawrence and Haverhill, Mass., Durham, N. H., Hartford, Conn., Sioux Falls, S. D., Storrs, Conn., Providence, R. I., New Brunswick, N. J.

Clearly our opportunities far over-shadow our ability to help and though individual members may prove as generous in the future as they have in the past the Society itself must decide upon a certain *modus operandi*.

Applications will therefore be considered and filed in the following order, to be filled as circumstances permit. Members with a surplus of good named varieties who are willing to label and ship may make it possible to establish far more plantings than the Society alone could do.

**1st.** Public institutions, well-distributed geographically, which will enter into formal agreements leading to study and report of interest to members of the Society.

**2nd.** Plantings in large cities where 5 or more members will assume an active interest in the maintenance.

**3rd.** Plantings in towns and cities where members (five or more) cooperate provided that such locations are not within a convenient distance of good existing plantings.

In other words Trial Gardens where seedlings may be tried and judged and whence valuable reports may come are of the greatest value to the Society of the whole. A wide distribution, geographically, is also of advantage to the Society and particularly so when members take an active part in the development of the planting. Whereas a small planting in a small place is of undoubted value to the locality but of little value to the Society unless local members can develop an active interest in our work. However much the Society would like to cooperate in village improvement there is a far larger field for service.

In justice to its members the Society can cooperate only in the establishment of plantings under public control (and hence open to the public) and with members of the Society who are willing to assume the small responsibility of doing their share in carrying out the simple requirements stated in the original agreement.

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AND

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The American Iris Society, hereinafter called the Society, and the Committee composed of members of The American Iris Society and one or more public officials, hereinafter called the Committee hereby agree to cooperate for the purpose of establishing a collection of irises for display and such other matters as may be hereafter mutually agreed upon.

This agreement is to extend over a period of \_\_\_\_\_ (not less than three) years and may be terminated upon one year's notice by either party or extended by mutual agreement.

The Committee agrees as follows:

1. To provide land (under public ownership), labor of planting, and proper care and maintenance.
2. To provide and maintain suitable labels on all varieties and an appropriate sign stating that the planting was undertaken in cooperation with The American Iris Society.
3. To report annually as to the condition of the planting.
4. That stock of irises furnished by the Society, or stock resulting from its increase, shall not be disposed of by sale or exchange except with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Society.

The Society agrees as follows:

1. To furnish such stock as may be available from existing plantings.
2. To publish annual reports received from the Committee.
3. That the Committee may be required to act contrary to this agreement since it makes use of public property.

It is mutually agreed by both parties:

1. That all claims to damages due to non-fulfillment of this agreement are waived.
2. That the essence of this agreement is the development and maintenance of a beautiful and valuable collection of irises in such manner as to promote the aims and objects of the Society and of the Committee jointly.

For the Committee.

Public official.....

For the Society

Member.....Sec'y.

## ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AND

The American Iris Society, hereinafter called the Society,  
and the  
hereinafter called the  
hereby agree to cooperate for the purpose of establishing a trial and  
demonstration collection of Irises and for the study of their cultivation,  
classification, pathology, and comparative merit, and for such other  
matters as may be hereafter mutually agreed upon.

This agreement is to extend over a period of five years, extending  
from to inclusive, and may be terminated upon one year's  
notice by either party or extended by mutual agreement.

The agrees as follows:

(1) To provide land within its own grounds, labor of planting,  
and proper care and maintenance.

(2) That all records relating to the subjects of study, excluding  
notes of strictly preliminary nature, shall be kept in duplicate and one  
copy supplied to the Society for its use and preservation.

(3) That any standards (of classification, methods of recording  
data, etc.) which may be adopted by the Society shall be used when  
pertinent or applicable, and that nothing tending to establish a standard  
in respect to Iris shall be published without the previous approval and  
consent of the Society or its Board of Directors.

(4) That data secured during the period of this agreement shall  
be open to the use of the Society, and that any Bulletins thereon pub-  
lished by the shall be furnished to the So-  
ciety in number equal to twice the amount of the then membership.

(5) That stock of Irises furnished by the Society, or stock re-  
sulting from its increase, shall not be disposed of by sale or exchange  
except with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Society.

The Society agrees as follows:

(1) To furnish without charge the necessary stock that can be  
secured through contributions of its members or from interested growers.

(2) To cooperate fully in the collecting of data.

(3) That the may be required to  
act contrary to this agreement, since it occupies public property and  
derives a variable portion of its income from public funds.

It is mutually agreed by both parties:

(1) That either party may publish such data as have been  
gathered, but that incomplete data may not be released for publication  
except by special consent of both parties.

(2) That at the close of this agreement or at any previous time  
agreed upon, the stock or portions thereof shall be divided in the follow-  
ing manner: to the , three plants each of all  
distinct varieties as a first claim; to the contributor, subject to his ex-  
pressed wish, a number of plants equal to his original contribution, if  
available; to the and the Society, equal  
portions of all remaining stock.

(3) That all claims to damages due to non-fulfillment of this  
agreement are waived.

(4) That the essence of this agreement is the development,  
maintenance, and study of a beautiful and valuable collection of Irises,  
and the utilization of it in such manner as to promote the aims and ob-  
jects of the Society and the jointly.

For the Society:

For the

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

# The American Iris Society

## CINCINNATI SECTION

Draft of By-Laws, etc., Approved by the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society at Meeting at New York, January 9, 1926.

**1. Name.** This organization shall be known as the Cincinnati Section of the American Iris Society.

**2. Object.** The object of this organization shall be to promote the culture and improvement of the Iris by means of exhibitions, garden visitations, the striving for a public planting, and the general cooperation with garden clubs and the public to further the development of the genus.

**3. Members.** Any member of good standing in the American Iris Society, living within a radius of 100 miles of the City of Cincinnati, may become a member of the Cincinnati Section of the American Iris Society by registering with the Secretary of this organization at least 10 days before any regular quarterly meeting, and complying with all the other regulations as defined.

**4. Officers and Their Election.** The officers of this organization shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer, acting under the authority and in cooperation with the Regional Vice President of the American Iris Society. All officers to be elected by a ballot vote and to hold office for a period of one year or until their successors be duly elected and qualified. No officer shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms.

At the regular October quarterly meeting nominations will be received for at least two candidates for each office to be filled.

The annual election of officers, by ballot, to take place at the same meeting.

At the regular January meeting shall take place the installation of new officers and the election of a Show Secretary. The Show Secretary, the Chairman of this organization, and one other person (elected at the January meeting) to constitute a committee with instruction to bring in a schedule of rules, etc., to be used for the ensuing show of that year. This report to be submitted at the regular April quarterly meeting.

**5. Meetings.** This organization shall hold regular quarterly meetings in January, April, July, and October of each year, upon a date set by the Chairman and approved by the Regional Vice President. Notice of time and place of each meeting to be sent to each registered member of this organization, and to the Regional Vice President of the American Iris Society, by the Secretary at least six (6) days in advance of the said meeting.

Special meetings may be called by the Chairman upon the written request of any five members.

Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of this organization.

**6. Amendments.** These by-laws may be amended at any regular quarterly meeting of this organization by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular quarterly meeting.

**7. Parliamentary Authority.** The Rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and the constitution and by-laws of the American Iris Society.



At the organization meeting of the Cincinnati Section of the Society called together by Messrs. Hardcastle, Ayres, and Lewis R. Smith acting as a committee appointed by Franklin B. Mead, the Regional Vice-President the following officers were elected under the by-laws authorized at the meeting of the Directors of the American Iris Society, January 9, 1926, and adopted by the Cincinnati section January 15, 1926.

**Chairman**—Mrs. Stephen E. Cone.

**Vice Chairman**—Robert Senior.

**Secretary-Treasurer**—E. E. Hardcastle.

**Show Secretary**—Mrs. Lewis R. Smith.

**Member Show Committee**—Charles Phillips.

It is with real pleasure that I announce this organization of local members of the Society. It is the first group of local members to organize formally under the constitution of The American Iris Society and I think we owe to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis R. Smith a distinct debt of gratitude for concentrating and putting into actual practice along parliamentary lines, the real interest in irises that has long made Cincinnati an influential iris center. The informal "New Rochelle Group" of members with Mrs. Hitchcock as "Leader" has been most active; there are Iris Societies in many centers but, in no case, has there been group cooperation with the central body however active the individual members. We have been able to develop no profitable scheme of affiliation with other societies.

The Cincinnati Section organized voluntarily by certain resident members is an integral part of the Society as a whole. Any member of the A. I. S. resident within 100 miles of Cincinnati may cooperate in the work of the Section (this is in no way obligatory) and, insofar as it represents the consensus of opinion of its members, it receives recognition from the Directors but this in no way detracts from the privilege of an individual member to call directly upon the officers and directors for any desired action. The existence of the Society depends upon the degree to which the officers and directors elected by the members satisfy these same members but the growth and power of the Society is wholly dependent upon the active cooperation of the individual members. The organized activity of any group naturally coordinates and strengthens the work of individuals and, to my mind, the organization of the Cincinnati Section not only should be considered a landmark in the development of the Society but also an example of what members in other localities may undertake.

As the first in the field, its work will be followed with interest. May the pages of the bulletins frequently record its success!

I am most fortunate in knowing personally many of our Cincinnati members, in having seen the gardens of Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Emigholz, of Mr. Phillips and Dr. Ayres, but above all have I been fortunate in corresponding with these and others on divers phases of iris interest. Both in Cincinnati and in Lexington, Ky. (part of the local Section) there are now fine gardens and fine collections, and each year the list is added to but it is not the physical beauties of the gardens that is of so great interest to us all but rather the work carried on therein. Mr. Wareham may have started the ball a-rolling in the growing of seedlings but Dr. Ayres, Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Carter, and Mrs. Emigholz were well among the first while Mrs. Smith (in competition at the 1925 show), and almost all the rest, including her husband, one of our newest members, are now entering the field. I suppose it is a matter of personal prejudice but to me it is the presence of many, many seedlings that makes Cincinnati a Mecca. However confusing it may be to have hundreds of introductions, however much I may admire efficient management and beautiful gardens my chief interest lies in the breeding, the careful breeding of new irises.

# 1925 Bibliography of Iris Literature

The Bibliography is progressing slowly, and let us hope, surely. Like the proverbial snowball, the more one pushes it, the bigger it grows. However, once the "snow" of back publications has been wiped up, we will be on clear ground and ready to think of printing.

Each year, of course, there are a number of articles that are not found in time to be published in the yearly list or, perhaps, for some unavoidable reason, they are issued late. In this way, some really useful thing might not receive the attention it should have. Addisonia 9: December 1924, is an example of this. Coming out in March, 1925, it cannot be included properly in the 1925 Bibliography but our readers' attention should be called again to it. Another thing, the time the compiler has to devote to this work is limited and sometimes it is not possible in a year for her to visit the different libraries, situated as they are in widely separated cities, where certain publications may be found in entirety. It is remarkable how few libraries take gardening periodicals. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has the greatest number of these but trips to Boston are not frequent or long enough to clear up the whole year in time for publication.

It would be a great help if members, when they see an article apparently overlooked, or when they publish something about irises, would notify the compiler, giving as many details as possible. She hopes the members will understand the situation and be indulgent with her for she is doing the best she can under the circumstances.

Ethel Anson S. Peckham.

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- Opera, Iris. Hort. New Series 3: 163. 15 Ap. 1925.\*
- Packing Irises for Shipment. Flow Grow. 12: 300. July 1925.
- Peacock, Iris unguicularis. (Award of Merit) Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc. 50: Pt. 1, XLIII. Jan. 1925.
- Planting for the Nursery, Convenient. R. S. Sturtevant. A. I. S. Bull. 17: 29. Oct. 1925.

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 Sibirica and its Allies, Iris. W. R. Dykes. The Gard. 89: 404-405. 18 July 1925.\*  
 †Siberian Irises, New. R. S. Sturtevant. Hort. New Series 3: 66. 15 Feb. 1925.  
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 Stylosa, Iris. (Time of blooming) A. J. Sampson. The Gard. 89: 601. 24 Oct. 1925.  
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 Suggestions From and To Members. A. I. S. Bull. 17: 41. Oct. 1925.  
 Tectorum, Iris. W. Logan. Gard. Chron. 77: 295. 2 May 1925.  
 Test Garden for Apogon Irises, The. G. M. Reed. A. I. S. Bull. 15: 22-24. Ap. 1925.  
 Test Garden for Beardless Irises, The. G. M. Reed. Brook Bot. Gard. Record 14: 115-118. July 1925.\*  
 Test Garden, New York. (Alphabetical Planting List) A. I. S. Bull. 15: 15-22. Ap. 1925.  
 Test Garden, New York. (Bearded) List of Contributors. A. I. S. Bull. 15: 14. Ap. 1925.  
 Test Garden. The New York. E. A. S. Peckham. A. I. S. Bull. 15: 13. Ap. 1925.

- Test Garden, Work in the Iris.** E. A. S. Peckham. Jour. N. Y. Bot. Gard. 26: 198-200 Sep. 1925.
- tingitana, Iris.** F. W. Jeffrey. Gard. Chron. 77: 25. 10. Jan. 1925.\*
- tingitana, Iris.** The Gard. 89: 51. 24 Jan. 1925.\*
- Tingitana, Iris.** W. McG. Gard. Ill. 47: 69. 31 Jan. 1925.
- tingitana, Iris.** (question) The Gard. 89: 107. 21 Feb. 1925.
- Tingitana, Iris.** E. F. C. The Gard. 89: 221. 18 Ap. 1925.
- Tingitana, Iris.** E. A. Saunders. Gard. Ill. 47: 414. 4 July 1925.\*
- Tingitana, Iris.** A. R. The Gard. 89: 476. 22 Aug. 1925.
- True Judgment and False.** B. Y. Morrison. A. I. S. Bull. 15: 6-8. Ap. 1925.
- Turkoman, Iris.** (First Class Cert.) Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc. 50: Pt. 1, XLVIII. Jan. 1925.
- ungicularis, Iris.** T. Gard. Chron. 77: 87. 7 Feb. 1925.
- ungicularis, Iris.** G. Gard. Life 48: 187. 8 Aug. 1925.
- Unusually Tall Iris. An.** (I. Juniata) J. C. Wister. Hort. New Series 3: 243. June 1925.
- Vesper Iris, The.** S. F. Hamblin. Hort. New Series 3: 335. 15 Aug. 1925.
- Visits 1924, Part II, Iris.** R. S. Sturtevant. A. I. S. Bull. 15: 26-30. Ap. 1925.
- Visits to Wyomissing.** J. C. Wister. A. I. S. Bull. 14: 12-14. Jan. 1925.\*
- Wattii, Iris.** W. Logan. Gard. Chron. 77: 295. 2 May 1925.\*
- Wattii, Iris.** The Gard. 89: 249. 2 May 1925.
- Wedgewood, Iris.** (Tingitana x Xiphium) The Gard. 89: 79. 7 Feb. 1925.
- Wedgewood, Iris.** J. K. R. Gard. Chron. 77: 87. 7 Feb. 1925.\*
- Wedgewood, Iris.** Flor. Ex. 59: 624. 21 Feb. 1925.
- Western Irises.** S. F. Hamblin. Hort. New Series 3: 296. 15 July 1925.
- †White Irises.** F. Denis. A. I. S. Bull. 17: 6-10. Oct. 1925.
- William Mohr, Iris.** R. S. Sturtevant. Hort. New Series 3: 214. 15 May 1925.\*

## The Behavior of Iris Foliage in Winter

A report of the condition of iris foliage in Idaho in January from Mr. Petrie. The thermometer had reached a minimum of seven degrees Fahrenheit and the plants were not covered with snow.

| Section or Species | No. of Varieties | Uninjured | Foliage Injured | Destroyed |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| DB.                | 7                | 6         | 1               | 0         |
| 1B.                | 7                | 3         | 1               | 3         |
| 1. germanica       | 5                | 4         | 1               | 0         |
| 2. Florentina      | 1                | 0         | 1               | 0         |
| 3. trojana         | 1                | 1         | 0               | 0         |
| 4. pallida         | 34               | 0         | 6               | 28        |
| 5. Plicata         | 12               | 0         | 3               | 9         |
| 6. Neglecta        | 18               | 0         | 1               | 17        |
| 7. squalens        | 18               | 0         | 5               | 13        |
| 8. Amoena          | 12               | 0         | 0               | 12        |
| 9. variegata       | 20               | 0         | 0               | 20        |
| 10. Other species  | 3                | 0         | 0               | 3         |
| 11. Unclassified   | 18               | 0         | 2               | 16        |

Of the germanicas Kochi was the only one appreciably injured.

# 1925 Introductions and Registrations

(With corrections)

Bulletin 8, the Supplement thereto, Bulletin 14 and the following list should contain all introductions and registrations up to December 31, 1925. Members are requested to notify Chas. E. F. Gersdorff, 1825 No. Capitol St. Washington, D. C., of any errors or additions.

In the following list CAPITALS signify 1925 introductions;

**Small letters bold**—1925 registrations.

Small type—corrections, including both introductions and registrations of 1924.

For the first time I have attempted to designate the type to which a variety belongs wherever personal knowledge or catalog description makes it at all possible. In many cases this was a dubious proceeding and is marked with a ?. Again I should be glad if members would give the correct types as we plan to issue another check list if possible within a year or two and to include therewith the class or name of the type varieties.

## Additions to List of Originators and Introducers.

By request dealers should list the introductions of E. B. Williamson under the head "Longfield" and the originations of William Mohr and his successor Sydney B. Mitchell as "M-M" signifying Mohr-Mitchell. Varieties from this source introduced previous to 1923 were introduced by Miss Grace Sturtevant, in 1923—1924 by Campos Altos Gardens, in 1925 by Carl Salbach.

And.—Edgar Anderson, Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, Mo.

Bales—B. R. Bales, Circleville, Ohio.

Black—Mrs. J. L. Black, Urbana, Ill.

Emig.—Mrs. J. F. Emigholz, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Long.—Longfield Iris Gardens (E. B. Williamson) Bluffton, Ind.

Love—Mrs. John Love, Towson, Md.

Lovett—J. T. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J.

M-M—Mohr-Mitchell, Sydney B. Mitchell, Creston Rd., Berkeley, Calif.

Mag.—J. W. Magruder, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

Main—M. Emerson Main, Westerly, R. I.

Neel.—Dr. J. H. Neeley, Paulding, Ohio.

Pat.—Mrs. I. Pattison, Rockford, Ill.

Rose.—E. M. Rosenbluth, Wallingford, Pa.

Rounds—Will Rounds, Lowell, Mass.

Totty—Charles H. Totty, Madison, N. J.

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ALCYON (Cay) Type Mrs. H. Darwin.

Alcia (Magruder) Lilac to mauve bicolor; 3 ft.

ALLIES (Vilmorin) Type Opera?

Alvarado (M-M) Conquistador x Lent A. "Deep purple."

AMNERIS (Millet) Type Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau?

Andalusia (Simpson) (202-8) Reddish copper.

Ann Horr (Magruder) Type Maori King; 31 in.

ANOSIA (Wnsn). Type "Mohogany"; 30 in.

Antonia Antonette (Kunderd 1926)

Apache (Farr 1926)

Araby (Wareham) Bicolor blend; 40 in.



**ARLETTE** (Cay) La Neige x White Queen. A. M., N. H. S. F., 1925. Type Innocenza.  
**ATHANAEL** (Mil).  
**Aurifero** (M-M).  
**AUTUMN KING** TB (Sass. H. P. 1924)  
**AZIYADE** (Cay) Dalmatica x M. Massé  
**AZULADO** (M-M 1924)  
**BABY DOLL** (Bral) Sib.  
**Bandalero** (M-M 1926). Conquistador x Lent A. Type Caterina?  
**BARCAROLLE** (Cay).  
**BELLORIO** (M-M 1924)  
**Belvidero** (Mag) Lohengrin x—. 38 in.  
**Benediction** (Rose) Type germanica.  
**Bertrand H. Farr** (Farr).  
**BETTY BALES** (Bales).  
**Blue Lightning** (Wrhm) Bluish lavender bicolor; 32 in.  
**Bohemond** (Mag) Crusader x—. Type Crusader.  
**BOUREM** (Cay) Peau Rouge x Opera. A. M., N. H. S. F., 1925. Type Opera?  
**Bravura** (M-M 1926). Conquistador x Lent A. "Deep rosy lilac."  
**Brownie** (Love) Blend; 2 ft.  
**CACIQUE** (Berry) Fulva x Savannarum H. M., A. I. S., 1925.  
**CALEBEE** (Simpson).  
 Capri TB (Dykes)  
**Carnation** (Sturt. 1926) Type Dalila.  
 Captivation TB (Dykes)  
 Carnival TB (Dykes)  
**Casman** (Mag) Chamois and dark lavender.  
**Cattleya** (Wrhm) 20 in.  
**CHARTIER** (Hall) Type Mrs. H. Darwin?  
 Cherubin (not Cherubim)  
**CINDERELLA** (Koeh. 1924)  
**Claire de Lune** (Wrhm) Pale lavender self; 3 ft.  
**Claridad** (M-M 1926) Type Dalmatica. H. M., A. I. S., 1925, (80).  
**CLAUDE MONET** (Cay) Iris King x Imperator. Type Maori King?  
**COLIAS** (Wnsn) Type Aurea. 3 ft.  
 Columbus TB (Dykes)  
**Consuelo** (Orp).  
**Content** (Sturt. 1926). Type Innocenza; 3 ft.  
**CORONADO** TB (Mohr-Camp. 1924)  
 Couleur de Rose Sib. (Clev.)  
**Count Raymond** (Mag). Crusader x—. 33 in.  
**CRIMSON GLOW** (Perry).  
**Croesus** (Orp).  
**CURLESQUE** (Weed) Type Fairy.  
**Cyrano** (Orp).  
 Daimio TB (Mor.)  
**DAINTY LADY** (Weed).  
**DAINTY MAID** (Perry).  
**Darkness** (Mag) Comte d St. Clair x—. Type Perfection? 3 ft.  
**DAY DREAM** (Sturt) Type Mme Cheri.  
**Dejane** (Mag) Tamerlane x Dejaset. Violet bicolor; 37 in.  
**Dione** (Edlmann).  
**Don Juan** (Mag) 32 in.  
**Dr. Bales** (Mag) Tamerlane x—. Violet bicolor.  
**DR. MANN, DB** (Fryer).  
**DR. POTTER, DB** (Fry).  
**DRUID** (Sturt) Type Ambassador.  
**DULCINEA** M-M).  
**Dursilla** (Mag).

Dustin TB (Wing)  
 Elaine (Shull) Type Lancelot, 42 in.  
 El Capitan (M-M 1926). Mesopotamica x Oriflamme. "Purple bicolor."  
 H. M., A. I. S., 1925 (95)  
 ELINOR FUNK (Bral).  
 ELIZABETH HAMILTON (Bral).  
 Ellen (Mag) Blended plicata; 36 in.  
 Elsa (Mor. Sturt, 1926) Type Caterina.  
 ELSINORE (Hall) Type Maori King.  
 Emerald TB (Dykes)  
 Eunice (Mag) Type Neglecta.  
 Excalibur (Orp).  
 Exquisite Beauty, DB. (Rounds) Cream. Type La Perle.  
 FELDSPAR (Mor. Sturt) Type Etta.  
 Fismes (Millet) Not Cayeux.  
 FLAMBEAU (Sturt) Type Minniehaha.  
 FOLKWANG (G & K).  
 FORSETTE (G & K).  
 Frieda Mohr (M-M 1926). Meso. x Oriflamme.  
 Fritzie (Mag) Fritjof coloring; 30 in. Type Othello.  
 GARDEN WHITE (Sturt) Type Mrs. H. Darwin, 42 in.  
 GAVIOTA (M-M 1924)  
 Gen. MacPherson (Per.)  
 GIANT OF CONNERN (Van T).  
 Golden Manuscript (Wrhm) Empire yellow self; 30 in. Type Mrs. Neubronner.  
 Golden Promise (Neeley) Type Mrs. Neubronner.  
 Gold Fish (Wrhm) Blended self; 18 in. Type Cherubin.  
 Grace Dean (Mag) Wyomissing x Apollo. Sea-foam yellow; 30 in. Type Flavescens.  
 GRAPTA (Wmsn). "Mohogany". 2 ft.  
 GREY DAWN (Bales) Type Lavendulacea.  
 GREY FRIAR (Bral) Type Lavendulacea.  
 GRENADIER (Vilm) Type Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau?  
 hexagona purpurea.  
 HIDALGO (M-M).  
 HOMER C. (Mor. Sturt) Type Opera, 38 in.  
 HORIZON (Mor. Sturt) Type Caterina-pale.  
 Impressario (Mor) Caterina x Alcazar. (New name for Chlothair).  
 Indigo Sib. (Clev.)  
 Ingomar (Mag) Opera x—. Type Albatross blend; 29 in.  
 ISHTAR (Sturt) Type Mme. Durrand.  
 JEANNE BEL (Denis Mil.)  
 Jessie Campbell (Mag) Loreley x—. Velvety red-violet bicolor; 35 in.  
 June (Orp).  
 KALOS (Sass-Crawford 1924)  
 KAREN TB (Mor. Sturt, 1924)  
 Katherine Dear (Mag) Parc de Neuilly x—. Type Lohengrin; 41 in.  
 Kera (Mor. Mt. Airy) Withdrawn by request.  
 KESTREL (Mor. Sturt) Type glamour.  
 KINGFISHER BLUE Sib. (Wal, 1924)  
 Klen (Mag) Lord Grey x—. 35 in. Type Quaker Lady?  
 Lady Mardie (Black).  
 La Paloma TB (Mohr. Camp.)  
 Lazica.  
 Leonora (Orp).  
 Leota (not Leoto)  
 LODESTAR (Hall) Type Maori King.  
 Lois (Mag) Type Mme. Chereau? 30 in.  
 LONA TB (Sass-Sturt, 1924)

LOUDOUN (Fen, Sturt) H. M., A. I. S., 1924. Type Montezuma-pale.  
 Louis XIV (Mag) Rose Unique x—. Violet self; 31 in.  
 Louise Arbuckle (Mag) Type Gracchus? 35 in.  
 Lucia (Mag) Type Mme. Chereau. 30 in.  
 LUSTRE (Dykes, Orp) "early."  
 LYCAENA (Long) Type Rhein Nixe.  
 Manrico (Mag) Opera x—. Type Rev. Wurtelle; 32 in.  
 MARC AUREAU (Cay) Type Mary Orth? A. M., N. H. S. F., 1923.  
 MARGUERITE MARON (Denis-Maron 1924)  
 Marigold TB (Dykes)  
 Mary Barnett (Cumbler-Farr 1926) Type Dalmatica.  
 Mary Barnett TB (Cumbler)  
 MARY GIBSON (Perry).  
 Mary Green (Mag) Type Neglecta. 24 in.  
 MARY HAWKINS (Bral).  
 MAY CHEREAU (Bral).  
 MAY SADLER (Perry) Type Cardinal?  
 Melrose (Sim.) (4a) Type Alcazar.  
 Minaret (Wrhm) Type Caprice; 52 in.  
 MISS CAVELL (Denis Mil) Possibly Edith Cavell (Denis 1921).  
 Mohawk (Farr).  
 MONTOUR (Hall) Type Jacquesiana?  
 Moyen Age (Wrhm) Type Seminole; 3 ft.  
 MRS. EDWARD HARDING (Perry).  
 Mrs. Gerald Howse (Per.)  
 MRS. ILTIS (Fryer).  
 MRS. MARIAN CRAN (Perry 1922) Do not confuse with Marian Cran.  
 MRS. MERTIE BRALLIOR (Bral. 1926).  
 MRS. ROBERT EMMET (Perry) Type Kashmir White,  
 MRS. VALERIE WEST (Bliss, Wal.) Type Bruno.  
 MY LADY (McK. Totty) Type Mme. Chereau.  
 Nizan TB (Dykes)  
 NANCE (Bliss 1921)  
 Nancy Lea (Simpson) (29a) Type Bridesmaid? 32 in. H. M., A. I. S., 1924.  
 Novata (M-M).  
 OBERON (Koeh. 1924)  
 Obispo (M-M).  
 Odaroloc TB (Andrews)  
 OLIVE MURRELL (Perry) Type Quaker Lady.  
 OPHIR GOLD (Andrews) Type Mrs. Neubronner.  
 Oracle (Wrhm) Type Bruno?; 24 in.  
 ORIZABA (Berry).  
 Papilio (Mag) Beethoven x—. Type Montezuma?  
 Pastella (Mag) Type Lavendulacea; 3 ft.  
 PAVANE (Cay) Type Navajo.  
 PEARL BLUE (Intro. Sturt).  
 Peerless TB (Dykes)  
 Perdita TB (Dykes)  
 Pete Deatrick (Mag) Tamerlane x Dejazet. Type Gracchus?. 37 in.  
 PETREL TB (Mor. Sturt. 1923)  
 Philetus (Mag) Type Aurea; 32 in.  
 PHYRNE (Cay) Mme. Durrand x Lord of June. Type Mme Cheri?.  
 PIONEER (Bliss Wal. 1924)  
 Plicata Giant (Bral 1926).  
 Primavera (M-M, 1926) IB meso. x pumila. Type Etta.  
 PRIMROSE (Sturt) Type Mrs. Neubronner.  
 PROTEUS (Hort. Wal. 1924)  
 pseudacorus gigantea.  
 Pura (Mag) Type Dalmatica?; 28 in.  
 Purity of Lowell (Rounds) Type Mrs. H. Darwin.  
 Pyramus TB (Dykes)

**QUEEN CHEREAU** (Bral).

**Quest**, Sib. (Anderson) Snow Queen x early sibirica. Deep bluish violet, early; 18 in.

**RAHNA** (Cay) Type Lord Grey—Ochracea.

**Rama** (Mag) Navajo x—. Type Archeveque?

**RAMELDO** (M-M) Type Silverado.

**RAMONA TB** (Mohr-Sturt, 1924)

**Red Splendour** (Sturt, 1926) Type Red Cloud.

**RENEE DE LABORDE** (Denis).

**RIESE VON CONNERN** (Muller Koeh).

**RITA** (M-M) Formerly La Favorita.

**ROSADO** (M-M) Type Queen of May but larger.

**Roselle** (Mag) *Violacea grandiflora* x—. Type Caprice; 30 in.

**SALOME** (Cay).

**Sang de Boeuf** (Wrhm) Type Glamour but redder; 40 in.

**SANTA BARBARA** (M-M) Type Caterina.

**SENSATION** (Cay).

**SHERBERT 2ND** (Sturt) Type Ambassadeur.

**SILVER QUEEN** (Perry) Type Kashmir White.

**SIMPLICITY** (McK. Totty) Type Pocahontas-pale.

**SIR MICHAEL** (Yeld, Orp)

**SNOW** (Bales) Type Mrs. Horace Darwin.

**Snow Drop** (Mag) Type Innocenza; 31 in.

**Snow White** (Sturt 1926) Type Innocenza; 3 ft.

**SOLIFERINO** (Cay) Type Caprice? 4 ft. A. M., N. H. S. F., 1924.

**SPAHI** (Vilm).

**Stella Main** (Main) A white form of versicolor.

**Summer Skies** (Pattison) Type Dalmatica.

**Sunset Skies** (Simpson) Type Afterglow? 32 in.

**SWAN**, D. R. (Lovett) Type Schneekuppe.

**Tamersset** (Mag) Tamerlane x Dejaset. Type Hiawatha? 34 in.

**TANSY** (Andrews) Type Aurea?.

**Templar TB** (Dykes)

**TERIAS** (Wmsn). Type Quaker Lady. 3 ft.

**The Blonde** (Wrhm) S. yellow. F. white; 32 in.

**THECLA** (Wmsn). Type Monsignor.

**The Quaker** (Mag) Quaker Lady x Sambucina. Type Caprice; 30 in.

**The Sorcerer TB** (Floore)

**Thisbe TB** (Dykes)

**TID-BIT** (Sturt) *Cengialti-pallida*. 15 in.

*ungicularis marginata*.

*ungicularis speciosa*.

**Valencia** (M-M 1926).

**Vashti** (Orp)

**Venetia TB** (Dykes)

**Verona TB** (Dykes)

**Vesalius** (Mag) Fro x—. Type Jacquesiana?. 3 ft.

**VINGOLF** (G & K) Type Sarabande.

**Vigia TB** (Dykes)

**VIRGINIA HALE** (Bral) Type Dalmatica.

**VOLUMNTA** (Hort. Wal. 1924)

**Wanda** (Mag) *Violacea grandiflora*—: Type Caprice? 30 in.

**Zada** (Emigholz) Ricardi Foncé x White Knight. Type Kashmir White.

**Zanoni** (Mag) Red Cloud x Tamerlane. Type Archeveque?. 35 in.

**ZULU** (Bliss, Orp) Type Dominion.

**ZUMBRO** (Fryer).

The following names of 1925 introductions are not accepted: viz: Muscadin *Ophelia* (Cayeux); Delicatissimus, TB (Perry); Canary Bird DB, Blue Jay DB, Sea Gull DB (Lovett).

As no response has been received from our request in Bulletin 14 that the following names be changed in order to prevent confusion American dealers are now requested to adopt the following changes or to omit said varieties from their catalogs.

Avalanche, Jap. (Childs) **AVACHE**  
Balder (G & K) referred to **BALD**  
Brilliant (Dykes-Orp 1924) referred to **BRILLIANCE**  
Cassandra (Perry 1923) referred to **CASSA**  
Dalkish (Barr 1924) referred to **DALKI**  
Dido (Perry 1923) referred to **DIDOP**  
Distinction (Cay. 1925) referred to **DISTINCTIVE**  
Luna (Perry 1923) referred to **LUNAP**  
Melpomene TB (Perry 1923) referred to **MELPO**  
Moonlight (Dykes-Orp 1923) referred to **MOONLIT**  
Pandora (Perry 1923) referred to **PAN**  
Thalia (Perry 1923) referred to **THALIAPE**  
Thelma Perry Sib. (Perry 1923) referred to **THELMA**  
Twilight MB (Dykes-Orp. 1924) referred to **TWILIT**

## Tid Bits, 10th

Edited by Sherman R. Duffy, III.

Vox populi iridis takes on a cosmopolitan air in this issue to introduce the newest of nations, Czecho-Slovakia. It is always interesting to know what the rest of the world is doing along the lines in which we are interested and we find the Czecho-Slovaks who get along very nicely without the vowels in their vocabulary that we deem necessary do not get along without iris. Moreover, they have interesting native species which are much used in their gardens which we also grow, such as sambucina and aphylla, although the latter is manifested in only a few hybrids and its presence is shown chiefly by dark beards of blue or purple tone, Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau indicating distant aphylla parentage.

We run across mavericks with dark beards occasionally that are not found in catalogues, the writer having one much on the order of Parc de Neuilly but with a beard as dark as the standards and falls, and showing the aphylla trick of branching down among the leaves. These are undoubtedly descendants of this native iris of the limestone ledges of Hungary and Bohemia.

Mr. Oskar Smrz, a nurseryman of Pardubice, Czecho-Slovakia, has sent some interesting comments on the growing of irises in his country. Mr. Smrz writes, "Iris growing in our country is far behind France and England, not to mention America which is now leading in iris growing. Notwithstanding, the iris in Czecho-Slovakia is quite popular but is generally known in some old-fashioned varieties while the newer varieties are still unknown.

In our country we find some species in a wild state. Iris pseudacorus is very common in humid places. In some districts we find I. graminea and I. sambucina. To the country's flora belongs also I. bohemica (aphylla) which grows on limestone rocks. Of cultivated kinds the most common are the germanica varieties. Larger collections of iris have been introduced into the country by the Bohemian Horticultural Society.

"Some newer varieties have been introduced by the Dendrological Society and by some of the nurseries but there is yet no establishment

that specializes in irises. Most widespread are the originations of Goos & Koenemann because of the close proximity of Germany.

"It is necessary to awaken more interest for this beautiful flower in Czecho-Slovakia. Unfortunately such varieties as Shekinah, Wyomissing, Windham, Mount Penn, Montezuma, Aurelle, Avalon, Dominion, Duke of Bedford, Lent A. Williamson, Queen Caterina, Seminole, Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau, Sherwin Wright, Pocahontas, Asia, etc., are here unknown and yet unreachable for too high prices. We are too poor for these valuable novelties."

Who said the iris was the poor man's orchid?

Mr. G. L. Pilkington, treasurer of The Iris Society of England, whose interesting appraisals of both the newer English and American irises have appeared in former bulletins sends more interesting comment. "Asia," says Mr. Pilkington, "we consider very fine here." Mr. Sam Burchfield of Ann Arbor rates Asia at 1,000,000. It is one of eight irises I feel that I should insist on having no matter what happened in the iris world,—Ambassadeur, Asia, Ballerine, Mme. Gaudichau, Princess Beatrice, Prospero, Magnifica, and Mlle Schwartz. I should insist upon Mlle. Schwartz as a companion to illuminate the rich tones of Ambassadeur, until Miss Sturtevant gives us a yellow Caterina or Canopus, which might be even better."

Mr. Burchfield thinks Leonato better than Ballerine but it is reported hard to grow in some sections. Mr. Burchfield finds that Ballerine stands up better under rains than Leonato.

"I know it may not always be desirable for a raiser to give away the secret of some outstanding novelty, at any rate, until some years have elapsed, but I must say I find it very interesting and instructive to get together (largely from your society's bulletins) any data on parentage," writes Mr. Pilkington. This comment arose over the attributing of Ricardi blood to irises which are not seedlings of this rather touchy parent. Troost is one of them. Mr. Pilkington says he has M. Denis' direct statement that Troost is not a Ricardi seedling, either on the pollen or the seed side. Troost, with me, is identical in coloring with Her Majesty, but larger and taller in growth. Mr. Pilkington says it carries its fine rose coloring into its seedlings, and, unfortunately, its striping which the writer finds a disfigurement to an otherwise fine flower. Mme. Chabal is quite similar but lighter in tone.

French growers have been rather promiscuous in their advertisements of Ricardi hybrids which is not much of a recommendation to the American trade owing to the cultural difficulty with some of them.

To those of us who find our chief diversion in seedling raising and study, parentage is a matter of the greatest interest and one of the reasons I have worn out some of the bulletins and Miss Sturtevant's catalogue. Telling the parentage of an iris may be revealing a trade secret but what of it? It will take at least two years to get flowers from the same cross at the earliest or five or six to get sufficient stock to introduce it if we had ulterior designs. The chances of reproducing any iris exactly are negligible. I will leave it to some mathematical shark to apply the algebraic formula of probability and chance. There is no danger in telling iris pedigrees.

The English iris growers seem interested in the American estimate of Dominion and its race. Most of the estimates I have heard aren't fit to print. It seems to have the dying disposition of an early Christian martyr. It may flatter its owner by blooming and then dying. It may die in advance of blooming. On occasion, in this part of the country it takes hold, and grows like a self-respecting iris ought to grow and that isn't the usual experience. Mine is growing thriftily but further than that deponent sayeth not, and I touch wood as I write it.

Mr. Burchfield rates it at 90 for breeding and 70 as a garden iris. This seems a very fair estimate from a meagre personal and more extended hearsay experience. It should be purchased in the same spirit a farmer buys a pedigreed bull, not for its beauty or disposition but for its progeny.

Miss Harriet F. Holmes of Batavia, Ill., writes of the disappointment of some of her friends over the first cut blooms of Dominion exhibited in this section. This is not an uncommon experience, I wondered what all the shouting was about myself. Apparently it is a very variable plant both in bloom and growth. It would be of the greatest interest if members of the Society who have succeeded in establishing Dominion or its progeny would send in brief notes concerning soil conditions and other treatment. I have searched the bulletins in vain for anything like specific experience in this line.

Miss Holmes, commenting on a beautiful display of *Iris sibirica* Perry's Blue in a Chicago nursery, wonders if it will grow in her dry garden. It will. Perry's Blue and other sibiricas went through the trying drought last summer in Chicago gardens and in my sand patch which is only 60 miles from Miss Holmes none the worse for the dry spell with only an occasional soaking. It is a beautiful iris and makes an imposing display on some of the estates along Lake Michigan, where it is used in quantity in new plantings.

"I always see a close relationship between horizontal falls and ability of standards to resist heat," writes Frank W. Campbell, the well known printer of Detroit, who knows the points of his iris as well as he does of his old style, gothic and chamfer. Does that mean variegata parentage? The writer has come to associate variegata blood and substance with no good reason, perhaps, but horizontal falls and velvety texture are marks of the variegatas.

"There ought to be a prize offered for the ugliest seedling. With all our striving for excellence, why not recognize the nadir of uncouth mischance," asks E. O. James of California.

Mr. James claims the prize. The writer will contest. His is also a plicata, the dirtiest looking one that ever grew. Mr. James claims the name "Rev. Jones" or "Mrs. Maginnis" for his plicata horror. "John Doe" is hereby entered against it. Mine is the zenith of mischance, an iris moron.

An Ellis Island for alien irises is suggested by F. X. Schreiner of Minneapolis to keep out undesirable foreigners. After considerable experiences with French griefs and reminscences—*deuils et souvenirs*, English catastrophes to the purse, and German *schrecklichs*, it sounds like an excellent idea but we needn't worry. Quarantine 37 has us stopped.

Along the line of exclusion which the black and white lists of the A. I. S. cover very well, Mr. E. B. Williamson, author of *Lent A.*, says, "I approve heartily of the black list idea. I doubt the wisdom of a white list. If the experts will get out the goats the balance remaining will be fairly virtuous sheep. I doubt the wisdom of giving a variety capital bold face prominence on approval of three persons. They might all see it together the first morning it ever flowered when the season and the environment promoted too much optimism. And the plant might be growing over a cat grave or some source of under stimulation. If you'll make the test that it must be seen in at least three places by the same three experts and that it must be approved growing in all three places before being singled out for this honor, I'll agree."

It would seem easier to agree on a black list, at any rate. The only objection I found was including *Loute* which I like but you can't please everybody. The committee inspection idea is certainly a fair one and

bound to lead to a more accurate estimate of the iris in question than one inspection in one place only. I know that cat graves do for irises as I have some planted on the family feline cemetery,—one way of applying bone meal.

Several correspondents suggest the desirability of an iris census as to hardiness in order to afford northern growers some idea as to which and how many of the seedlings of *mesopotamica* and *Ricardi* blood they can grow. Hardiness is so relative a term that the writer does not see how the idea can be made practical. The personal equation enters into it to a very great extent. Soil and drainage are other factors. If the sole factor to be considered were hardiness as to extremes of cold, they are all fairly hardy. *Mesopotamica* has withstood 20 below zero with me and I have had it three years here in northern Illinois.

It remained absolutely still for two years, one fan, no more. Last summer's intense heat and long continued drought seemed to decide *l. mesopotamica's* course for in September it broke out with new growth all along the rhizomes. I hope to have it bloom next year. A dry hot summer is its main need, apparently. We can't provide dry hot summers to order but, if desirable, these irises can be kept dry for a period during summer.

There is always some question as to whether the species are true to type as *mesopotamica*, *cypriana*, *Ricardi*, and *trojana* have been much confused. Why not grow them and study the types?

Another correspondent suggests an iris year book. This is something to think about. The American Iris Society has provided the only real garden literature of the iris. Dykes "Handbook of Garden Irises" is not a garden book at all. It is a very excellent short cut to the botany of the genus iris, very valuable to a student of the iris but not a book for the average small gardener, who grows flowers to take the curse off his daily job, which is the motive behind a great deal of our gardening,—a diversion, recreation, pastime, sport.

The unusually valuable type of iris literature developed in the bulletins is well worth being put into permanent form. However, this is a subject for considerable calculation as to financing and practicability. We need an American iris book to assist in the development of interest. We have only Mr. Stager's work, more praiseworthy as an effort than for its contents, I have never forgiven him for tacking poetry to an iris borer. The only guide we have for year book study is the American Rose Society, but its membership is much larger and the culture of the rose vastly more widespread than that of the iris. However, we are growing and we can grow irises in many places where we can't well grow roses.

There are also queries as to what is the function of the A. I. S. which seem to mean is it performing them? Does it or should it benefit the amateur or the trade? Unquestionably both. If it doesn't benefit the trade its existence will be brief for the trade reflects the interest of the amateur. If there is increased interest in iris growing there will be increased buying. The trade has been boosted by the A. I. S. so far as the writer is concerned. The amateur interested in the genus iris wants all the information he can find on his favorite hobby. The trade wants this information spread as a stimulus to disposing of its wares and so that it may know what to stock to please its customers.

There seems to me to be a complete community of interest between the amateur and the trade and one of the most valuable functions plant societies can perform is to bring about understanding and sympathy between dealers and buyers.



# The Right Spirit

## A Letter from a Member.

"I heartily wish that I were in a position to answer your questionnaire and invite iris lovers to see the flowers in my little garden. But mine is a very small one, just a backyard garden with an overflow onto a lot belonging to an indulgent neighbor. I have over a hundred varieties, about fifty of the best of them crowded in my yard, the rest scattered on my neighbor's land. About twelve years ago I was caught by the lure of the iris and began, as far as my finances would allow, to collect varieties. I could not have been more fortunate for, being a mechanic, a wage earner, I have not much time for gardening and I fell under the spell of the flower which probably needs the least attention. As to enjoying them I doubt if many owners of extensive gardens get the solace and joy from theirs as I from mine. My iris season lasts about six weeks. I look them over before I go to work in the morning, note the new beauties and delight in the old ones and take "the glory of the garden" with me to my labor, hastening home in the evening, light-hearted because I am again to see them. Often I take a number of flowers to my work and give them to my more humble and often coarse fellow workers, thus sending a pleasure otherwise unknown to the homes of Polish and other families. Or, seeing a light come into the eyes of a forlorn-looking woman standing at her door I have handed some to her, merely stopping to say that their name is irises and that the buds would open. The rough husband of one such woman stopped me to tell me how pleased his wife was "with them flowers and they lasted a whole week".

"This diffusion of pleasure is a great privilege and it is mine. For such pleasures I prefer to give of my best, Lent A., White Knight, Isoline, Ambassadeur, Le Neige, and other good ones, not forgetting to include one or two sweet-scented ones such as Fairy, for long ago I have noted a blank look on faces when recipients have failed to find a fragrance.

"Also I have enjoyed the patient waiting one must exercise when growing irises from seed. I am now in the sixties, but year after year I sow the seed. Even now while my plants are covered with snow I can look over them and rejoice in the wealth of latent beauty lying there, awaiting the season for its upspringing and my worshipful admiration".

---

## Symposium

A Symposium upon varieties not previously rated and representing the opinions of some fifty odd growers is to be published after the flowering season.

Mr. C. P. Connell, 2001 Grand Ave., Nashville, Tenn., will again act as Chairman of the Jury but he requests that jurors forward their reports to R. S. Sturtevant, Wellesley Farms, Mass.

Lists for the Symposium were sent out in December and although some twenty odd jurors acted promptly, a small number requested that report be delayed until after the blooming season. The Board of Directors have authorized this delay and also the publication of the following letter from Edward Auten, Jr. This letter is published merely as of interest to members.

The score card as given on the back page of Bulletin No. 15 seems to me to be most indefinite, might mean one thing to one person, and

something else to each of five or six more. For instance, I think the matter of color is the most important single item in rating, and one could follow this score card and give a variety with absolutely worthless color a rating of 85, which is most surely all wrong for the ordinary Iris fan. Such a variety might be priceless to the hybridizer but a rating is not primarily for the breeder's guidance.

I have studied out a rating system which I believe will give results of actual value to the ordinary fancier, and would be pleased to have it considered by the Society.

First, as hardiness and vigor are vital points in some localities and not in others, I believe they should be rated separately, hardiness by the numbers 1, 2, and 3; one being very hardy, two moderately so, and three tender. Then rate vigor by letters A, B, and C. A being very vigorous, B moderately so, and C unsatisfactory, like old Black Knight. Then one variety might be rated 1 A 94, say Ambassadeur, while Caterina might be 3 A 90 or thereabout. One in choosing varieties to buy, could then let all varieties rated 3 alone. I should certainly do so, also any with a C rating.

Second, as to the actual characteristics of bloom and plant, I would suggest the following scale:

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Color   | 30        |
| Distinctiveness of color                                  | 15        |
| Substance   | 20        |
| Fragrance (a variety with no fragrance to rate 0 in this) | 5         |
| Size of bloom   | 7.5       |
| Form of bloom   | 7.5       |
| Height  | 7.5       |
| Stalk (branching and carriage of blooms)                  | 7.5       |
| Total   | <hr/> 100 |

Any voting on this plan should be done with the actual blooming plants before one, and the separate items should be judged one at a time and then a total taken. If conscientiously done, I believe that such a symposium would eliminate in a positive way very many of the kinds which are now offered, especially if the full range of points in each item were used, and not the upper third or two-fifths. For instance, if a variety was absolutely inferior in color, rate it 0 for color. I should rate Pfauenauge that way. In some symposiums, I believe credit has been given a variety merely because it has color of some sort, which, when analyzed, is absurd. I have in mind some gladiolus ratings where nearly three-fourths of the kinds reported on are given the highest rating possible for color, and you know well enough that not more than 5% of the varieties of gladiolus are worthy of such a rating, possibly not 1%.

Height, I believe, should be a relative matter, not one of total inches. We want a 46 inch stem on Pallida Dalmatica, because the leaves are broad and tall, but a 46 inch stalk on a pumila variety would be painful to look at. And I can enjoy a good bloom on a variety with foliage of modern height with a stalk of a good proportionate height just as much as I can an extremely tall kind. Probably 160 to 240 per cent of the height of foliage is proper height for stalk. There is nothing much more charming than a perfect little pumila variety with the blooms nicely clearing the foliage, and such a plant should receive the full number of points on height, as should also a medium sized Germanica. There is surely room in our many small gardens for varieties

of small and medium stature as well as the tall ones, and I think the question of total inches has befogged the real point as to what constitutes proper height.

While not entirely agreeing with the White List and the Black List recently started, I believe it to be one of the most valuable things the Society has done, and I hope that it will be enlarged rapidly.

(Signed) Edward Auten, Jr.

As one of the original members of the Score Card Committee and as a member of the Symposium juries I wish to comment briefly on Mr. Auten's suggestions.

First: Practically all growers with an experience of many years consider that "hardiness and vigor" except in a few cases of varieties inherently weak (e. g. Black Knight), is more of a matter of culture than it is of locality or resistance to actual cold. There are entirely too many reports of success under adverse climatic conditions to make a separate rating on this point of decided advantage. It is difficult enough to distribute fairly the 10% now available without getting into complications of A, B, and C. Some indication of mesopotamica parentage, however, might well be considered advisable.

Second: Mr. Auten gives color 30% and distinction of color 15% more, a possible total of 45% as compared to the 20% (15% for color plus 5% for distinction) of the present score card. Color is undoubtedly of major importance to a purchaser but it offers the widest possible latitude for personal preference and the least possible chance for adequate definition. Perhaps a majority of us like clear colors only. Well—then all the blends will rate below 70% at the most or perhaps only 55%. Or again: at present I rate Rhein Nixe around 85% but by Mr. Auten's score I could honestly rate it at 1A65-75%, because it lacks distinction of color (15%) really good contrast as compared to Thorbeck (say 10%) and has no perfection of substance, size, or form. I think that this one example shows the slight value that could be derived from a standard based so largely upon private preferences.

Mr. Auten is correct in stating that the full range of points should be used and that the full value for color or form or what-not should not be given a variety just because it can hardly help but possess these characters. One can hardly over-emphasize the fundamental fact that **a variety must be considered worth rating** in the first place. If it possesses some points of distinction from all others of its class then judge it, give point values to each character and make the final rating. We should judge not the intrinsic beauty of the variety (it may duplicate our finest), but whether the variety has, not alone beauty, but some outstanding quality that makes it a real addition.

Actual height, size, etc., is relatively unimportant but **IF** the variety possesses some characters to a superlative degree **AS COMPARED** to all other similar varieties then it deserves every credit that the judge can conscientiously award. It is surprising to find how difficult it is to remember that a Dwarf Bearded variety should not be compared to a Tall Bearded one. In the last symposium the Intermediates as a class suffered under this misapprehension so much that the Directors authorized a 10% increase in their ratings.

Of necessity individual standards vary. Therein lies much of the fun of growing irises and discussing their merits. A symposium, however, should reflect a conservative consensus of opinion built upon a firmer foundation than personal likes or dislikes.

## Brevities

In reference to the suggestion that the A. I. S. produce colored illustrations for the use of commercial members, Mr. Campbell as a printer reports the suggestion out of the question, and Mr. Shull, as an artist makes an equally adverse report as to the expense.

Early December bloom in California as reported by Miss Hill: Koya, Mme. Claude Monet, Delagrang, Cameleon, Kochi, Crimson King, Syphax, Archeveque and Rhein Nixe came along by the end of the year.

The National Capitol Dahlia and Iris Society announce plans for an Iris Show at the Mayflower Hotel. Address E. W. Sheets, 1831 Lamont St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Minto, Clackmas, Oregon, reports bloom on Queen Caterina in late October.

Mrs. Lewis R. Smith gave a lecture illustrated by A. I. S. slides on Jan. 5, 1926, in Cincinnati.

Mr. David Petric spoke in mid-January before the State Horticultural Association of Idaho on Irises.

Mr. A. L. White made use of the A. I. S. lantern slides a number of times in and about Spokane during the late summer and autumn.

A list from Mr. Berry of white iris in bloom: Albicans, Feb. 11, 1925; Edith Cavell, March 15; Ingeborg, March 17; Ivorine, March 18; Syracuse, March 19; Theseus, March 25; Argentina just as Edith Cavell was going by, a superb individual flower but of miserable, twisty, snaky stems whereas those of Edith Cavell are invariably straight and erect. These

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two and Theseus are alike in all being throated with deep brownish yellow but otherwise they are quite different and scarcely in direct competition, especially when blooming time is considered.

## Officers, 1926

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**Secretary:** R. S. Sturtevant, Wellesley Farms, Mass.

**Treasurer:** Arthur H. Scott, Front and Market Sts., Chester, Pa.

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## Iris Trials at Wisley, England

American Breeders are invited to cooperate in the Iris Trials initiated by The Royal Horticultural Society and The Iris Society at Wisley. It has long been the custom of the Royal Horticultural Society to conduct trials of various garden flowers and vegetables in order to select the best varieties for general cultivation. In the early part of 1925 such a trial was announced for irises with a request that plants be sent before March 15th so that they might be well-established for judging in the spring of 1926. This, however, did not give American growers time to contribute and a recent letter from Mr. Pilkington states the ultimate aim which permits us to present our introductions to foreign criticism.

Breeders are requested to send plants at any season (the earlier the better) accompanied by properly filled out forms obtainable from R. S. Sturtevant, Wellesley Farms, Mass; The Trial is similar to that now under way at our own Trial garden and annual reports are made of recommendations, etc. I think, however, that Mr. Pilkington can best express the object.

"The final decision as to the ultimate aims of this trial was only arrived at a few weeks prior to the death of Mr. Dykes. The trial will only be permanent so far as the "best" varieties of each type are concerned. The idea is to group the irises and classify them as to time of flowering, colours, habit and to establish the best irises in each class, weeding out all the inferior ones and only admitting new ones when they surpass the existing "best" in their own particular class.

"This is not so easy as it sounds, as you will well appreciate; but it will eventually result in growing about 150 varieties adjudged to be the best in their classes.

"As to new seedlings, it is proposed to run a continuous trial of these, novelties being judged each year after sufficient time has elapsed for the plants to establish themselves.

"I certainly think that we ought to give all the American varieties a good trial and I should welcome them anytime it is fit to send them."

The plan is clearly of great advantage to every breeder because the results will receive wide publicity on both sides of the Atlantic and I sincerely hope that our breeders will see fit to cooperate as fully as possible.

## NOTICE OF 1926 ANNUAL MEETING

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In response to the invitation of Mr. Lewis R. Smith, presented in behalf of the Cincinnati Section of The American Iris Society, the 1926 Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, in May.

Adequate notice as to the exact time and place will be given.

It is hoped that the meeting can be held in connection with the Cincinnati Iris Exhibition, which, in normal seasons, would come about the middle of May.

Members are reminded that nominations for officers are made by the Directors on the written request of five members at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. As an unusually early season might make it desirable to hold the exhibition as early as May 1st, all requests for such nominations should be sent to reach the Secretary before April 1st.

The list of officers and directors whose terms expire Dec. 31, 1926 may be noted on page 8.

# Notice

Mrs. J. Edgar Hires, Ardmore, Pa., as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions, will henceforth handle all matters concerning local shows. Please notify her of your plans as soon as possible.

Charles E. F. Gersdorff, 1825 No. Capitol St., Washington, D. C., as Chairman of the Committee on Registrations should receive all catalogs published and all registrations from breeders, including corrections to existing check lists.

Details of the \$100.00 Prize offered by Robert Wayman will be found on page 40 of Bulletin No. 15.

Members from a distance who may be available for judging the 1923 and 1924 introductions at the N. Y. Botanical Trial Garden, about June 1st, are requested to notify the secretary.

**Publications available** from Arthur H. Scott, Front and Market Sts., Chester, Pa.:

Bulletins of the A. I. S., Nos. 2; 5 (Symposium); 6; 7, 9 (Descriptions); 10 (Irises for the Beginner); 11, 12, 13 (Classification); 14, 15, 16 (Report on Sterility); 17, at \$.50 each to members. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 (Check Lists) are practically out of print and the charge is \$1.00 each.

Bulletins of The Iris Society (English), No. 1, \$.50; No. 2, \$1.00.

Addisiona Vol. 9, No. 4. Eight Native Species illustrated, \$2.00.

Les Iris Cultives. The Report of the International Conference at Paris, 1922, \$1.00.

For the Cornell Extension Bulletin, No. 112, send to N. Y. State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y.

Membership List as of Dec. 31, 1925, will be ready shortly.

1925 members should have received Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17; No. 1 (English), and Cornell No. 112.

## SCORE CARD FOR GARDEN IRISES\*

### PLANT—20%.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Growth</b> exceedingly strong and vigorous.        | 10% |
| <b>Effect</b> in garden; free flowering, floriferous. | 10% |

### STALK—20%.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Polse:</b> the flowers pleasingly proportioned in size and form to the height and branching of the stalk.  | 10% |
| <b>Height:</b> preferably over 40 in. in the taller groups or over 30 in. in the variegata, or amoena groups. | 10% |

### FLOWER—35%.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Color:</b> clear; venation or reticulation, if noticeable, clearly defined.     | 15% |
| <b>Form:</b> if distinctive and pleasing; e. g. Princess Beatrice, Queen Caterina. | 10% |
| <b>Size</b> e. g. Juniata, Rhein Nixe, Sindikha of their types.                    | 10% |
| <b>Substance:</b> firm and resistant to weather conditions.                        | 10% |

### OUTSTANDING QUALITY—Unless a variety is both clearly distinct and pleasing, it should receive no credit on this point.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Distribution:</b> Fragrance not over 5%; foliage thruout season not over 10%; value for exhibition or as a cut-flower not over 5%; exceptional development of form, color, or substance not over 5% each. | 15% |
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\*From Bulletin 10, page 60.